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THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINI



Littleton: Klebold and his prom date, Robyn Anderson (see NATION)



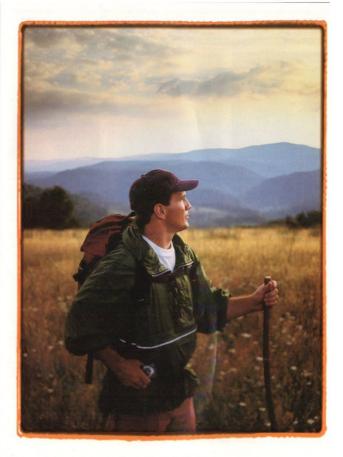
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TO OUR READERS

Lighting Up Broadway

CARES

BIOLOWAT—WHO NEEDS ITE IT'S AMAISOLEUM FOR FOREICNERS AND FOCIES. It's got no stars, no premier playwrights, no fload-out-of-the-the-theater magic. It's got no stars, no premier playwrights, no fload-out-of-the-theater magic. Some days that may be true. But last Monday a few dozen eminences from movies, IV and we we the stage convened at the Broadhurst Theater for a lit-the the did fashioned dazzle. The occasion was a benefit called "the Playwrights" the thing," an evening of slist and play except by three superb American comic dramatists: Christopher Durang, Terrence McNally and Wendy Wasserstein. The event of which This was the presenting somons; raised mon-

serstein. The event, of which TIME was the presenting sponsor, raised money for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, a charify that helps theater people with AIDS. The evening also raised the spirits of everyone lucky enough to be there.

Stars? They were lined up in the Broadhurst's wings like a queue for *The Phantom Menace*. Steve Martin played a nasty shrink to Stockard Channing's frazzled patient. Nathan Lane and Swoosie Kurtz as two actors waiting for an opening-night review ran

their fingernails under each other's egos. Betty Buckley as a modern-media Medea got lectured by a toughlove angel (Whoopi Cold-berg). Stunning Susan Sarandon was a freeful Southern mana trying to marry off her shy, sys on (delicious David Hyde Pierce), who had eyes only for his glass menagerie of cocktail swizzle sticks.

Some of the sketches reminded the faithful why they were there: to fight the loss and loneli-



THE GANG'S ALL HERE: A rapturous curtain call for Goldberg, Christine Baranski, Robbins, McDonald, Kurtz and Pierce

ingin the 10% and 100 million of the human calamities, A woman (Elizabeth Franz) whose noss that attend AD accident was comforted by the beautiful singing of the woman son had dired in a contracted by the beautiful singing of the woman contracted by the son that the son of the contracted had its limit. Two CL is Britan or the contracted by which we have the son of the contracted by the son of the contracted by the son of the contracted by the son of the son

The arts have no shortage of fund-raising schemes; in a McNally skit not performed last week, a harried patrones dashes off to a Disablet Modern Dancers' Luncheon. But giving needn't be an ordeal. "The Playwright's the Thing" proved that when Broadway has a good cause; it can have a great effect. And it can inspire as it entertains. In the evening's most indelible turn, Debra Monk played a New Yorker crise-crossing the border of reason and madness. She takes comfort in the poet Thomas Cray's line: "laughing wild amidst severest wee." For those in the audience with aros or other diseases that have ravaged our world, the phrase not only defined this hilarious, touching evening and the canny dramatic strategy of its playwriting trio. They were words to the by—a blueprint for the theater's survival, and ours.—## Reharde Codes."



WE'D LIKE TO TAKE A CURTAIN CALL TOO. LAST WEEK THE American Society of Magazine Editors selected TIME for a National Magazine Award—the highest accolade in our industry. TIME WON ASME'S public-interest prize for its comprehensive series on the flawed and costly policy of corporate welfare, written by Donald Barlett and James

Steele. It's the first Ellie, right, for the pair, who already own a pair of Pulitzers; and it's the latest of nine awards the series has captured. To purchase reprints, call 800-982-0041.

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A Lawyer to Wiseguys **Would Rule Sin City**

Oscar Goodman, ebullient and colorful. turns Vegas politics into lots of yucks

E CALLS HIS SWANKY LAW office "the house the Mob built." Its walls are decorated with newspaper stories about acquittals he won for alleged organizedcrime figures. A toy rat lies dead in a trap near the fireplace, and a pair of steel balls given him by two reputed wiseguys hangs over the door. His name is Oscar Goodman, and he could be the next mayor of Las Vegas. As he tours Sin City on the campaign trail-gloating over its tacky exuberance, making love with it-I ride shotgun

"Did you see those women crying?" Goodman asks as his driver pulls away from the Showboat hotel and casino, Just moments before, he had moved a group of seniors with a story of his 89-year-old mother teaching sculpture to blind children. Goodman, 59, walked out of the room with votes sticking to him like Post-it notes.

In corporate offices around town, though, Goodman's critics are worried that his client list-which once included Mever Lansky and is riddled with the names of other alleged mobsters-could spell trouble. Chamber of Commerce president Pat Shalmy says that if Goodman is elected, "the image we've been trying to improve over the years might be set back." Goodman responds by quoting his mother: "My son's clients don't hurt anybody. They just kill each other."

This is where my past and Goodman's intersect. I have dodged mortar shells in Bosnia and once kissed a photo of Saddam Hussein on orders from Iraqi soldiers, but never have I been more terrified than on a lovely day in May 1988, with Goodman at my side.

That was in Philadelphia, where Goodman grew up, and friends feasting on champagne and hoagies.

In what might have been the dumbest move in the history of journalism, I crashed the party-and was recognized as the local newspaper hack who had been hammering the Mob. When I was threatenedsomething about sleeping with the fishes-I turned to Goodman for help. He shrugged. I ran for my life. And 11 years later he makes no apologies. That's why he might be perfect for Las Vegas, a town that apologizes for nothing.

Goodman's practice includes civil law, and he represents only a few reputed

After years of winning acquittals for alleged organized-crime figures, Goodman says he's taking a shot at "doing some good from inside"

still defended clients. And on that Tuesday-just as he had promised-nine reputed members of a local crime family, including a Goodman client nicknamed Crazy Phil, beat a murder rap. Goodman had vowed to mark the moment by jumping nude into the fountain of the Four Seasons Hotel, but was stopped by hotel security. He put his clothes on and joined a party of hundreds of the defendants'

wiseguys, but that's where his celebrity comes from. Goodman played himself in the movie Casino, as the attorney for a Mob character portraved by actor Joe Pesci. At a roast honoring Goodman, tributes poured in from prisons across the land, including a teasing video from an alleged mobster who said, "Without you, I wouldn't be where I am today."

So why would a guy so rich and famous run for the mostly thankless job of mayor? "I had always fought the System from outside," says Goodman, "and figured I'd take a shot at doing some good from inside." Goodman has lived 35 years in Las Vegas and has proved a tireless glad-hander during this campaign. He has led in the polls, including one published last Thursday, and is expected to win this week's primary, though not with a margin large enough to avoid a runoff vote in June.

And what of the issues. you ask? Well, Las Vegas, the fastest-growing U.S. city, is choked by traffic and smog, and Goodman has accused his chief rivals-city councilman Arnie Adamsen and developer Mark Fine-of being part of the problem. While at a candidates' forum, Adamsen fires back, whispering, with eyebrow raised, that Goodman has told a local newspaper that he favors legalizing drugs and prostitution (the latter is already legal in most parts of

Goodman dismisses the charge as "out of context" and adds, somewhat menacingly, that his rival "is going to end up on his knees begging forgiveness." Though he believes philosophically in legalization of those vices, Goodman says, he would never push for it as mayor. What he would push for is impact fees on developers to pay for new roads and parks. (But Las Vegans should be skeptical: Goodman, a bench warmer for the Haverford College football team, told his future wife he was a starand she still believes him.)

That night, at the Palm restaurant in Caesars Palace. Goodman is greeted like a Roman god by diners and staff. "I love it, I love it, I love it!" he exults, and after his meal, when a waiter comes up to hug him, Goodman uses a line he picked up in Philadelphia: "Vote early and often."

44My son's clients ... just kill each other. 77_GOODMAN'S MOTHER



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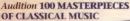
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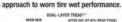
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Dreams of Genealogy

44You need to be aware that all your ancestors have contributed to your existence, not just a few. And no one more than any other.

KENNETH L. ARTISS Rockville, Md.

THANK YOU FOR BRINGING TO THE PUBlie's attention the incredible uses of the Internet for family history and genealogical research [FAMIX, April 19]. However, I take issue with the statement that genealogy is America's "latest obsession." Americans have always had a strong interest in genealogy. Perhapsit is because we still regard ourselves as such a new people, and we are seeking to prove our deep roots elsewhere

ROBERT S. DAVIS JR., DIRECTOR Family and Regional History Program Wallace State College Hanceville, Ala. YOU SURE WERE RIGHT WHEN YOU SAID the Internet has expanded the horizons of genealogy. After years of dusty libraries, discussions with relatives who have now passed away and even a visit to a church in Quebee, I was back only a few generations. But within hours of finding an e-mail on my wife's website. I had tracked back seven more generations, to France in the 1806s, and found relatives I hadn't known existed. We now have our own buteau website and encourage one another coast to coast.

EMILE JOHN BUTEAU
Riverside, Ill.

I WAS APPALLED THAT YOUR COVER WITH an artist's rendition of our forebears showed only white people. This implies that American history was shaped exclusively by whites and that the rest of us somehow just happened along for the ride, like so much human ballast. Your cover was dishonest and irresponsible.

TASHA HINTZE New York Citu

THE INTERNET MAY BE THE NEWEST AND sexicat tool for historical researchers and genealogists, but it is also the most corruptible. The data are not certified, are sometimes inaccurate and can easily be created out of thin air. On the other hand, its greatest asset is speed. The research process can be shortened from months to hours and maybe even minutes. But you should still go to Minot, N.D., for that crucial land deed or to Cresson, Pa., to find an old newspaper article. The Internet can act as a valuable lead to start research but not to finish it.

CHRIS J. LEWIE Hilliard, Ohio

I HAVE BEEN SEARCHING FOR INFORmation about my grandmother's grandparents since 1990, and let me tell you, studying genealogy is fascinating,

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Information for Patients: Patients being treated with MASOMEX Nasal Spray, 50 mog should be given the following information and instructions: This information is intended to act in the sale and effective use of this intendable if it is the adicipiture of all intended or speaked patients effects instructions. MASONEX Nasual Spray, 50 may an equalin intervals rance daily since his effectiveness depends on re-lar use Improvement in ransa sumptoms of steeper thinks has been shown to occur within 11 hours at domized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group seasonal altergic rhinitis studies. Maximum betin-ells usually achieved within 1 to 2 weeks after indison of dosing. Patients should take the medication as directed and should not increase the prescribed oosage by using it more than once a day in an attempt Should read and follow the accompanying Patient's instructions for use garefully Patients should be causioned not to spray NASCAEX Nasar Spray, 50 mag into the eye

Pessons who are or immunosuppriessant doses of corticosteroids should be warned to avoid expo-sure to chickenpox or messles, and patients should also be advised that if they are exposed medical

Carcinogenesis, Mistagenesis, Impairment of Fertilitis: In Sprague Dawley rats, m magin basis. In Swiss CD-1 mae monetasione future de-mistrated an statistically agrician increase in the necessary of tamon, at an insulation dose of 180 maying up-company 4 times the major

At extotoxic doses, mometasone furbale produced an immuse in infrommission abendonos in ratro in At gooden does in the control of the

assay, and the mouse male germ-cell clastogenicity assay. Mometasone furgate also did not induce

In reproductive toxicity studies in rats, mometasone furgate administered subcutaneously caused pro-Integro posterior provinced and different view reduced offspring survival and reduced maternal body weight gain following treatment at 15 mg/kg (approximately K the maximum recommended daily

infranasal dose in adults on a mog/m* basis). Impairment of fertility in rats was not produced by subcu-Programs, Faralinganic Effects Programscy Category C. Mometiasone funding claused ofth patitie in mice at subsidiareous does of 80 arm 180 mapsig approximatery 2 and 4 times the maximum recommenced daily infrancial dates in abotion are a magnim basis, respectively. Offenny survival was reduced in the 150-map to group, file indicatinganic valuationaeous dose level in mice was 50 map ting approximation.

mately if the maximum recommended daily infranasal cose in adults on a mogimilibusion in rabbits, mometasone furnate was teratogenic and caused flexed front paws at a topical dermal dose

of 150 mog/kg laporus mately 14 times the maximum recommended daily intranasal dose in adults on a

In rats, mometasone furcate produced umbifical herna, cleft palate, and delayed ossification at a topi-cal demail does of 600 mitg/fig (approximately 90 brins the maximum recommended daily intransast dose in adults on a mcg/m² basis / 4 1200 mcg/fig (approximately 60 brins the missimum recommended daily in these teralogenicity studies, there were also reductions in maternal body weight pain and effects on

Hetal growth (lower fetal body weights and/or obeleged softcation) in mice (60 and 180 mg/kg), rabbits (150 mg/kg), and rats (600 mg/kg). In an internating yallify in ratasts, at 700 mg/kg, approximately 70 times the maximum (ecom-

mended daily infiranceal dose in adults on a mog/m1 bases), increased incidences of recorptions and mal-primations, including sieft guiste and/or head martormations, hydrocephaly or domed head, were served. Pregnancy facure was deserved in most rapputs at 2800 maging, approximately 270 times the

There are no adequate and well-anniroused studies or pregnant women. NASONEX Nasal Spray mitty like other controlleroids, shows be used during pregnancy only if the optential benefits justify ops, un improved in physiologic disers suggests that rodents are more grone to teratogenic effects from thorsterions than furnant. In addition, because there is a natural increase in cortico

confirmaterant treatment during pregnancy Nonteratogenic Effects: Hypoadrenalism may occur in infants born to women receiving corts

Nursing Mothers: It is not known if mometasone furnate is excreted in human milk. Recause other corare excreted in human milk, caution should be used when NASONEX Nasal Spray, 50 mcg is Pediatric Use: Sarety and effectiveness in children less than 12 years of age have not been established

Genative Use: A solar of 203 patients above 64 years of age rage range 64 to 85: have been treated with NASONEX Nasal Spray, 50 mog for up to 3 months. The adverse reactions reported in this population vere similar in type and incidence to those reported by younger patients ADVERSE REACTIONS In controlled US and International clinical studies, a total of 3210 patients received

ADVERSE REACTIONS In common to the minimum of the property of patients on x 2103) were treated with 200 mogistay. A total of 350 patients have been treated for 1 year or longer to the property of the proper On age, sex, or race ree percent of patients in clinical thats discontinued treatment because of adverse events, this rate

was similar for the vehicle and active comparators All adverse events reported by 5% or more of patients -regardless of relati received NASONEX Nasal Spray. 50 mog 200 mog/stay in clinical trials, and that were more common with NASONEX Nasal Spray. 50 mog than placebo, are displayed in the table below.

ADVERSE EVENTS FROM CONTROLLED CLINICAL TRIALS IN SEASONAL ALLERGIC AND PERENNIAL LLERGIC RHIMITE

(PERCENT OF PATIENTS REPORTING) NASAL SPRAY 50 mcd (N - 210 Epistaxis/Blood-Tinged Mucus Longrang Upper Resouratory Tract Infection Musculoskeletal Pain

which occurred in less than 5% but greater than or equal to 2% of

symptoms, trivings, reasons and thinks.

Bare cases of read uniters and runss and one candidates were also reported in pate. NASCREX Nases Spay, 50 mag, permently or patients treated for conger than 4 weeks.

In postmarketing surveillance of this product, cases of nasal burning and viriation and rare cases of

nasal septal perforation have been reported

OVEROUSAGE There are no data available on the effects of acute or chronic overdosage with NASONEX Nasal Spray, 50 mcg. Because of low systemic broavailability, and an absence of acute drug-related systerms findings in clinical studies, inventions is milled to require any therapy one that observation introduced a communication of 1600 map of times the recommended dose of NASONEX Nasa Spray. 50 mings days for 39 sizes, to health, human insurfaces, sizes well tolerated out no increased moderace. 2 adverse events. Single infrancial thoses, it to 4000 mag have been studied in human volunteers with to adverse effects, regional. Single with coars up to 8000 may have been studied in human volunteers with no adverse versits reported. Distance reverticage with any conflictosterior may result in signary symptoms of hypercurchisms are PRECAUTIONS. Audio overdosage with mis disage form is unwiskly symptoms of hypercontrols (see PRESHOTION Contains approximately 8500 mcg of mometasone



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rewarding, frustrating, expensive and addictive. It requires great patience, creativity and organization. One thing it's not is easy!

> ELEANOR MERRITT Gainesville, Fla.

THROUGH THE INTERNET I WAS ABLE TO trace my Irish-African-American roots back to County Tipperary, Ireland, and I even found a cousin who now writes me from Ireland every week. I learned of a great-great-granduncle who was the child of a slave and fought in the

DIGGING UP YOUR ROOTS



Turns out we have more than a fe readers deeply involved in genealogical searches (FAMILY, April 19], and some were eager to share their experiences. They report a broad spectrum of discoveries-some of unusual historical interest and some that were just quite unexpected. For example, the first child born of European parents in the New World is generally considered to have been Virginia Dare, born in 1587 at the Roanoke Island settlement in what is now North Carolina. But George Hanson of Port Townsend. Wash., is chaffenging that belief. "Years ago, my old Icelandic grandmother started me on our family tree, and I soon discovered that, along with most icelanders, I am descended from Snorri, the child who was truly the first born of European parents in North America. in Vinland, around the year 1000." Chorties Hanson: "Move over. Virginia Dare!" On the other hand, in Medford, Ore., Elizabeth Corethers, who thought her greatgreat-grandmother was a "member of nobility," is downsizing her antecedents. After considerable research, she has discovered that the "lady was a middle-class cashier's daughter who married into a prosperous family." As Corethers puts it, "There is always something new out there!" Even when it's old.



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Civil War. The African-American Genealogy Society is thrilled at all the information and stories its members collectively share. Putting all our pieces of paper in order has shown us the priceless wealth of knowledge we have in our possession—our ancestors—and we are wonderfully proud of our heritage.

DENISE GRIGGS, CO-FOUNDER African-American Genealogy Society Sacramento, Calif.

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GARY F. KURUTZ, PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN Special Collections Branch California State Library Sacramento, Calif.

Kosovo: Looking for Options

NATO SHOULD HAVE SENT 10,000 WELLtrained, well-armed, air-protected parachutists into Belgrade at night and abducted Yugoslav President Slobodan and Milosevie [Kosovo Crasts, April 19]. Then he could have been shipped to the Hague for justice and the gallows. This would have earned fear and respect from North Korea, Libya, Iraq and other sore spots. Believe me, Milosevie is not afraid of an impeached President or his Secretary of Satze, Madeleine Ablivation.

CHARLES M. NEWTON New York Citu

IN LIGHT OF THE CONTINUING ATROCTIES being committed against the ethnic Albanians, NATO should give a 48-hour ultimatum to Miosevic: the Serbs must withdraw all their forces from Kosovo and allow NATO peacekeepers immediate and unopposed access to protect the ethnic Albanians. If the Serbs refuse, they will suffer the massive fire bombing several renormal to some, but allowing the rape, pillage and slaughter to continue is even more so.

ROGER CHAPIN San Diego THE GENERALS' OBSESSION TO WIN THE war is deplorable. Now is the time to realize that there will be no winners in Kosovo. As Georges Clemenceau reportedly said, "War is too serious a thing to entrust to military men."

KAZIK RASSALSKI Auckland

YOU NOTED THAT "250 TONS OF POOD PER Back in 1948, when we instituted the Berlin airlift. 4,000 tons of supplies edg were delivered to besiged Berliners. The Allies kept if up for months, and no one seemed concerned back then about an "exit strategy." It was simply the humane thins to do.

VINCE DANCA Rockford, Ill.

LIKE DON QUIXOTE, CLINTON HAS CALloped into a situation and is only making things worse for those he wanted to help. NICK MAROUDAS Haifa, Israel

THIS WAR IS NOT BETWEEN MILOSEVIC and NATO; it is between the Serbs and the attacking forces. There is no foreseeable hope for democracy in Yugoslavia because of this war. The U.S. and NATO



have gone too far. Citizens throughout the world should exercise their democratic rights and stop this political-militarymedia machine before it is too late.

PREDRAG MAKSIMOVICH Bulawayo, Zimbahwe

Cost of Hong Kong's Airport

IN YOUR ARTICLE ON SIR NORMAN FOSter's winning the Pritzker Prize [ARCHI-TECTURE, April 19], you referred to his "\$20 billion design" for Hong Kong's new airport at Chek Lap Kok. That figure is the total cost of all 10 projects built under the airport's core program. The cost of the airport itself was \$9 billion.

IOHN CHUAN CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office New York City

The Meme-ing of Life

RICHARD DAWKINS DISCUSSED MEMES. the self-replicating units of culture [IDEAS, April 19], and mentioned a variety of nontechnical books and Web pages about them. But he neglected to take note of any of the highly technical and mathematical expressions of meme theory. This leaves the meme open to the

TIME'S EXTENDED FAMILY



Don't miss this hour-long wsmagazine show on Sundays and Mondays. CNN and TIME Interview Bill Bonanno, son of Joe Bonanno, the legendary Mob Godfather, for an exclusive look inside what was formerly one of the most powerful organized-crime families in America. On CNN May 9 and 10 at 8 p.m. (E.T.).



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charge of "cocktail-party science," while keeping Dawkins' prized achievement in selfish-gene theory on safer sociological ground. This should surprise no one familiar with the areas of rivalry between proponents of the two theories.

AARON LYNCH Chicago

MEMETICS? I SAY IT'S EVOLUTHEOBABBLE! SANDRA RINI Hebron, Conn.

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POLICY FORUM

Simple Solutions

By Patrick G. Hays

ometimes our nation's social problems seem so overwhelming that we fear we can never solve them. It's tempting to just give up. But the rising number of uninsured Americans—more than 43.4 million—is one problem Congress can help to solve. Right nonw.

The challenge is to develop targeted solutions that reach specific people. For example, more than 83 percent of Americans who lack health insurance either have jobs themselves or have spouses or parents who work. Although these uninsured people work, their incomes are too low to afford insurance premiums. This problem is greatest among the smallest businesses, where 35 percent of employees are uninsured. To address the situation, our nation needs to find ways to help small companies offer insurance. Congress can make this happen.

First, the government should provide tax credits for low-income workers in small firms. In addition. Congress should allow the self-employed—along with other people who purchase health insurance outside an employer group—to deduct the full cost of health-insurance premiums from their income taxes.

Finally, lawmakers must resist the many proposed public policy schemes that will increase the cost of health care. These proposals will only make the problems of the uninsured worse.

The government faces a choice: foster solutions today or aggravate an already grievous social problem for tomorrow. Let's urge our lawmakers to make the right decision.

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Mr. Have is Decident and CEO of the national Blue Cross and Blue Shield Associates

Blue Cross and Blue Sheeld Association on association of endergenister Blue Cross and Blue Sheeld Plans



Who Should Be Named Person of the Century?

Our continuing series of special issues on the 100 most influential people of the century util cluminate in December, when TIME will hame a single figure as the Person of the Century. To help the magazine's editors make the choice, we are asking a select group of people to tell us whom they would pick. Here are the latest thought-prootoning suggestion.



WINSTON CHURCHILL It is one of the 20th century's ironies that the next opiguant tribute root one of the many from one of the most repugnant tyrants of our time. To astring the British leader at Yalta in February 1945, loseph Stalin said, "I can think of no other instance in history where the future of the world depended on the courage of one man."

abhorrence of tyranny was matched by his contempt for its appeasers, the second half of the century would have become a Nazi-dominated nightmare. That the world winessed instead the triumph of democracy, the defeat of totalitarianism (including the downfall of Stain's own empries) and the emergence of new nations—not learn the retrieval of the

W.E.B. DU BOIS The great African-American intellectual is the Person of the Century for me. Du Bois was the first black Ph.D. from Harwart, he was one of the founding fathers of the field of sociology. He helped establish the N.A.A.C.P. and edited its journal, The Crisis, for 24 years. He was an architect of the Harlem Renaissance and the civil rights

movement, and throughout his

e

1868 Born Feb. 23 in Great Barrington, Mass. 1809 Helpe found the N.A.A.C.P. 1810-12 Fights racial discrimination in the U.S. 1819-48 Backs Pan-Africa movement 1963 Dies in Shana 1963 Dies in Shana

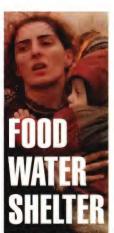
life brilliantly fought against racial discrimination and for the full participation of blacks in American society. He conceived of the Engelopedia Africana, a comprehensive history of the African diaspora. He was a staunch opponent (with Bertrand Russell) of the use of nuclear weapons. He published dozens of books and thousands of pivotal essays. Who could possibly have done more than he to redefine American democracy over 60 years of the 20th century? —Henry Louis Gates Ir., Chair of Afro-American Studies, Harvard University.

READERS SHARE THEIR OPINIONS AND IDEAS

Richard Holbrooke wrote that Adolf Hitler probably had the greatest effect on the century [PERSON OF THE CEPTLARY, April 12]. Unfortunately, I must agree, but how about honoring the pecple who fought Hitler? I am referring to Americans, Britlah, Rusalans, military people and private citizens.

Jack Gartner Pleasant Ridge, Mich. My choice is Gavrilo Princip, the Serbian nationalist who assassinated Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne. In doing so, he gave birth to World War I, spawning a century of conflict and setting the stage for the U.S. to dominate events as a world power.

Ruth Ware Koetzer Fort Collins, Colo.



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VERBATIM

"They can't accuse me of rape. If you look at what has been coming out of the slums in Kosovo...only a blind person could rape something like that."

VOJISLAV SESELJ, Serbian Deputy Prime Minister

441 am thinking of putting in a workman's compensation claim. 77

RUDOLPH GIULIANI, New York City mayor, on an injury aggravated by handshakes

44 There were two white boys on the elevator up here. I got real scared. 77

the comedian, who is black, in the wake of Columbine

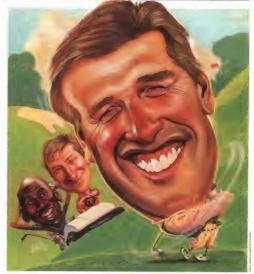
44 Part of growing up is learning how to control one's impulses. 77

HILLARY CLINTON, introducing the President at a gun-control speech

44 I think we've got gun control. I'm coming down now for Goth control. 37

> MIKE MURPHY, G.O.P strategist

Sources, Sesely ABC News, Gullanz N. Y. Tymes, Rock: Essence Awards, Clinton, White House, Marcon, Chilly Scroonline



TEE PARTY After winning two Super Bowls for Denver and respect for the AFC, the Comeback Kid retires on top. With an impressive one handicap, John Elway will be outgolfing Michael Jordan (four handicap) and Wayne Gretzky (11).

WINNERS & LOSERS



JESSE JACKSON
The Rev. goes to Belgrade and gets
POWs back. Slobo's playing chess,
but Jesse gets war's only glory
THE FREE LUNCH
Court rules that federal officials

Court rules that federal officials can still accept gifts. But not that kind of gift, Bill

Gov. Jeb Bush makes Florida first state with school vouchers—a George W. agenda item

MARILYN MANSON

First he's blamed for Littleton. Then someone sticks a smiley face on his stage. He storms off; riot erupts

MARS

Magnetism suggests it's basically like Earth. So why bother going? Tourism predicted to plummet

ARKANSAS

'92: Sooey! Finally, some attention '99: Ten state pols indicted



TIME, MAY 10, 1999

stigmata as well as his reputation

for seeing visions

and being in two

places at once,

investigated the

friar and cur-

tailed his activ-

sought out by

ities. But he was

believers, includ-

the Vatican

RELIGION

Bleeding-Hands Man Gets Star Treatment

ON THE ROAD TO SAINTHOOD, IT PAYS TO have connections. A mystic with blood on his hands was scheduled to move a step closer to becoming a saint this week with Pope John Paul II's beatification of the Capuchin friar known as PADRE PIO. The cleric, who died in 1968, is a favorite of the Pontiff's and a cultlike figure to many other Catholics. Last year 7 million pilgrimsmore than went to Lourdes-trekked to the remote hillside village of Italy's San Giovanni Rotondo, where he's buried; the village bustles with the construction of hotels and a church that will seat 7.500.

Padre Pio bled for 50 of his 81 years from mysterious. Christlike wounds on his hands, feet and side. Suspicious about the



ing, in 1947, a Polish priest named Karol Wojtyla, who reportedly was told he'd someday be Pope. As Cracow's auxiliary bishop, Wojtyla asked Padre Pio to pray for a friend with cancer; she recovered, and is still alive. In 1983 the Pontiff put him on the path to sainthood, and the final step of canonization could come within the next decade. -By Emily Mitchell

For Another \$100 Million. We'll Throw in Ilkraine

THE RUSSIANS MAY LAUNCH AN OBSCURE Welsh-born, U.S.-based garbage-treatment tycoon into space-if he can come up with the \$100 million needed to keep Mir aloft through 2000. The Russian government announced this year that it will have to wean Mir of funding this fall in order to pay for completion of the Russian modules for the International Space Station. So Energiya, the

state corporation that built Mir. created a subsidiary to raise hard currency. That's when

PETER LLEWELLYN 51, head of Microlife, a Minnesota company specializing in waste disposal, heard his calling. Paunchy and with



a graving beard. he is not quite the image of a NASA poster boy. But Energiya claims he's got the right stuff, that he's fit to fly and is a licensed pilot. Llewellyn, however, conceded to the Moscow Times that he's 112 lbs. overweight and, though he was certified to pilot a Cessna in 1976, has not flown a plane in 19 years. Still, Energiva says if Llewellyn can raise \$100 million, he gets a week of room and board on Mir this August. -By Andrew Meler/Moscow

CONGRESS

The Incredible Shrinking Speaker of the House

MILD-MANNERED DENNY HASTERT WAS never going to be like his outspoken predecessor NEWT GINGRICH. But last week, in the House's first big vote since impeachment-on a resolution to

support the NATO air campaign against Yugoslavia-Hastert's leadership was nonexistent. At a meeting with other lawmakers in the White House the morning



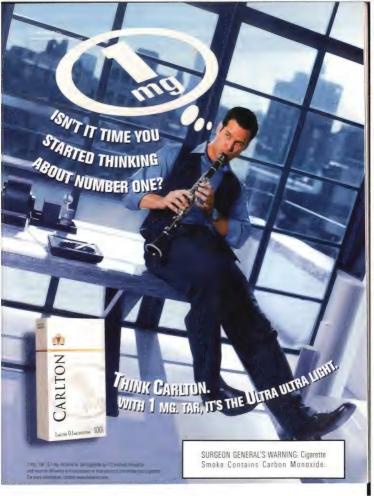
before the vote, Hastert told PRESIDENT CLINTON that enough Republicans would vote yes on the resolution to ensure its passage. Just hours before the vote, Hastert's chief of staff, SCOTT PALMER, advised the Democrats' chief tallyman. Representative DAVID BONIOR, that about 90 Republicans would vote in favor. But in the end, only 31 Republicans did, and the measure failed to pass in a 213-213 tie. Hastert voted ves. but instead of trying to persuade Republicans to join him, he remained seated while majority whip TOM DELAY lobbied members to vote no. "Hastert is Speaker in title only," a G.O.P. leadership aide said. "DeLay is running rings around him." -By James Carney/

Washington









I Like Big Seats

that American bottoms are steadily widening, even though it's not easy to escape the conclusion that if this trend continues, we may, as a nation, run out of places to sit. The disquieting proof of our spreading behinds came to me via an admirably thorough piece by Rene Sanchez in the Washington Post, a piece that confirmed a vague feeling I'd been having on the subway lately that the seat running along most of the length of the car seemed awfully crowded considering how few people were sitting on it.

Once I had read some actual backside statistics that Sanchez had gathered-in Seattle, of all places, a city the rest of us associate with outdoor physical conditioning of a level somewhere between conscientious and grim-I remembered that a year or so ago, when I'd had the occasion to share a few meals with some American wine distributors who were visiting individual producers in the south of France, I'd noticed that each distributor seemed to be almost precisely the size of a French family of four.

According to Sanchez's research, the 18-in,-per-bottom measurement traditionally used by seat engineers is now considered obsolete. Puget Sound ferries that once seated 250 Seattle commuters comfortably have been forced to carry fewer passengers because of what was diagnosed, after some study, as posterior creep. A seating consultant has advised a Seattle theater that's under restoration to include a few dozen 24-in, seats, and is training staff members "how to make subtle overtures to obese patrons who might back pockets.

'M TRYING NOT TO BECOME ALARMED BY THE EVIDENCE | not be aware of the special seating available to them at the theater."

> I'd like to see those training sessions. Could it be that the ticket line is routed through an opening that measures fanny width in the way those templates that some airlines put on airport X-ray machines weed out carry-on bags that won't fit under the seat or in the overhead rack? Probably not. It's more likely that ticket takers are trained to eveball patrons from the rear, in a swift and nonthreatening manner, and give the

extra-large-approaching signal (maybe a quick puffing out of the cheeks) to an usher, who then asks, with a helpful look and no smile at all. "Could I interest you in something in the full-cut section, sir?" I can imagine the final examination of the

training session, with volunteers moving past the ticket box and the trainee shouting out. "Twentythree ... 18 ... 38 ..."

Limitations on tush space, like any limitations, carry the seeds of political tension. Even in Seattle, which is known as a courteous town, the ferry company's effort to reduce passenger load

on Puget Sound commutes apparently provoked a petition that warned against the dangers of "butt police." A commuter told Sanchez that at least passengers hadn't had their backsides measured before being allowed to board. But what if space becomes even scarcer? Someday the prudent immigrant might show up for his citizenship exam not just with his papers in order and his head crammed with facts about the Constitution but also with everything emptied out of his

KOMED KORNER

SINGLED OUT **New Jersey** officials recently admitted that some state troopers used race as a factor in pulling over motorists. We gave comedians an hour to come up with their best loke on

the issue.



Margaret Cho: I've never been stopped by the police, but one time my Japanese friend and I were

stopped by a group of kids who velled, "Chinos ruin everything!" We weren't angry because we weren't sure whether they were talking about us or the pants. See, they could have been really racist or just fashion conscious.



Mike Royce: Every single person on the N.J. Turnpike is going at least 112 m.p.h. The cops should be pulling everybody over. The turnpike is the "rainbow

coalition" of speeding.

more crimes.



William Stephenson: A brother can't drive a Lexus without pushing dope? Supposing he hit the Lotto number?



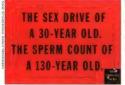
Kate Clinton: I think we'd all be a lot safer if the police would just pull people over who are on car cell phones.

If Men Took the Pill

BITISH RESEARCHERS ANNOUNCED LAST month a breakthrough in their development of an oral contraceptive for men. The pill was administered to 23 bold volunteers; the majority produced no active sperm after three months. The sperm loss was temporary, but the side effects required subjects to use testosterone patches in order to keep their manly form. To overcome this marketing dilemma. we asked the fertile minds at various ad agencies to think up some potent campaigns.





















WEBWATCH

O.K., SO I BITE In order to prevent rogues from creating anti-Bush websites. George W. Bush has bought a hootenanny of

URLs-60!-that send

you to his main campaign website. Among them: · georgebushbites.com

- · BushPataki.com · BushWhitman.com
- dubva.org
- bushsucks.com · bushsux.org
- · bushblows.com

OLYMPIC PROFILES

GOING FOR THE GOLD: TRAMPOLINE When trampolining debuts as an Olympic-medal event at the 2000 games in Sydney, one young star will be Team U.S.A.'s best hope.



JENNY PARILLA, Lake Forest, Calif. RANK: No. 1 in U.S., No. 15 in world HEIGHT OF JUMP: about 20 ft. AIR TIME: about 2 sec. BEST TRICK: 21/2 twisting double flip What's the main difference between you and your Russian and German arch-rivals? "They get paid for training, it's their job. and sometimes they all live together. I have other things to keep up with, and I live at home "

Your MIND IS ON YOUR COMputers,

business

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By providing a desktop solution that's built around reliability, speed, and ease of use, the Compaq Deskpro", with Microsoft" Windows NT" Workstation, addresses the changing needs of your growing business. Windows NT Workstation has that familiar Windows interface, it's completely supported by the experts at Compaq, and it's proven to work more reliably – increasing productivity – saving you money. Make sure you run Windows NT Workstation on your next Compaq Deskpro – and mind your business, not your computers.

www.compaq.com/products/desktops/nt4.html

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COMPAQ Microsoft

ERONTLINE PARTNERSHIP

NEW PARENTS. WOODY ALLEN, 63. filmmaker, and his wife SOON-YI PREVIN, 28, have a daughter, Bechet Dumaine Allen. A spokesman for Allen would not comment on whether the couple's first child, named for jazz clarinetist Sidney Bechet, was adopted or biological.

DIED. AL HIRT, 76, corpulent pop and jazz trumpeter also known as "Jumbo" and "the Round Mound of Sound"; of liver disease; in New Orleans. The ever affable Hirt was an institution in his hometown of New Orleans, where he ran a Bourbon Street club and had a stake in football's Saints. During a five-decade career, he toured with Big Bands led by Benny Goodman



than 50 albums and won a Grammy. He continued to play local clubs until the last weeks of his life.



DIED. RORY CALHOUN, 76, rugged film and TV heartthrob; of complications from diabetes and emphysema; in Burbank, Calif. While horseback

riding in the Hollywood Hills in 1943. Calhoun, then a laborer named Francis Durgin, was approached by Alan Ladd. who suggested a career in show business. Calhoun was best known for his roles in westerns and as Big Bill Longley, a good guy on the late '50s cBs drama The Texan.

DIED, ROMAN HRUSKA, 94 former conservative Senator from Nebraska: in Omaha. A longtime ranking minority member of

> tee before retiring in 1976, Hruska relentlessly opposed gun control and led the fight to restore the death penalty for various federal crimes. Among his most memorable battles: defending Harrold Carswell, a Nixon Supreme Court nominee accused by Democrats of being mediocre. "Even if he were mediocre, there are a lot of mediocre judges and people and lawyers," said Hruska, "They are entitled to a little representation, aren't they?"

5 Number of Top 200 video rentals not containing references to drugs, alcoholor tobacco



17 Percentage of major characters under 18 who smoked in recent films

36 Percentage of teens who smoke



\$5,900 Value of gifts Sun-Diamond Growers' lobbyist gave former Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy

9-0 Supreme Court decision declaring those gifts were not in violation of federal law

\$20 million Total cost of independent counsel Donald Smaltz's investigation into Espy's alleged corruption



14.5 Births per 1,000 Americans, the lowest since the government began keeping records in 1909

25.3 Births per 1,000 Americans in 1957, the height of the baby boom

52.3 Births per 1,000 U.S. teenagers, the lowest rate since 1985

Births per 1,000 teenagers in Japan

Sources: Office of National Drug Control Policy, Centers for Disease Control: Los Angeles Times, New York Times; NHS, Washington Pour

TOP SHELF

LUCKY PICKLES All six NHL players with their own foodstuffs made it into the play-offs, and as of Friday all their teams were doing better than expected. Although the company that makes the locally sold products, PLB Sports, wasn't purposely trying to market to pregnant women, we have to wonder why they made pickles and peanut butter.



From left: Brett Hull, Stars: Adam Deadmarsh. Avalanche: Jaromir Jagr. Penguins: Darius Kasparaitis, Penguins; Chris Osgood, Red Wings







25

By Harriet Barnvick, Hillary Hylton, Lina Lufaro, Tam Gray, David Spitz and Flora Tortake

TIME, MAY 10, 1999

PORTRAIT OF A

One was a leader, the other a follower. One prone to fits of venomous temper, the other shy and awkward. TIME investigates what led Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold to turn **Columbine High School into a killing field**

By ERIC POOLEY LITTLETON

OU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE who's turning out to be a nice guy at school," Brooks Brown told his parents one evening in mid-April. They were at the dinner table in their ranch-style house in Columbine Knolls, a modest subdivision in Littleton, Colo., and the tall, angular 18-year-old knew the comment would stir up some dust. His mother and father. Judy and Randy Brown. leaned forward and asked, "Who?"

"Eric Harris."

can't believe you're even talking to him after what he did." Judy put a hand to her heart. "You could say any other name at that high school and it

would be O.K.," she said. "But not that one." Last year. Eric Harris had thrown a chunk of ice at Brooks' car, cracking its windshield. Soon after, the Browns had discovered the spewings on Harris' website. geysers of hate like the one saying Harris longed to "blow up and shoot everything I can. Feel no remorse, no sense of shame ... I don't care if I live or die in the shootout. all I want to do is kill and injure as many of you [expletive] as I can, especially a Randy almost choked on his fork. "I few people. Like Brooks Brown." Harris claimed

to have the weaponry to carry out his threat against Brown. His website offered bomb-building instructions and boasted that he and a friend. code-named "VoDka," had made four pipe bombs and detonated one ("Flipping thing was heart-pounding gut-wrenching braintwitching ground-moving insanely cool!"). And if all that weren't enough, Brooks knew that "VoDka" was his old best friend. Dylan Klebold, who had become Harris' new best friend but had tipped Brooks to the hateful website. Terrified, the Browns searched their property for bombs and filed complaints with the sheriff's depart-



it didn't pursue Harris because no crime had been committed and the Browns wished to remain anonymous.) But in April 1998. Harris took his site offline, and life in the neighborhood seemed to quiet down.

Now, a year later, Brown was sitting at dinner telling his mother and father that Harris was a good guy after all. Brown was taking philosophy and creative-writing classes with Harris and Klebold, and the three hung out together-bright, maladjusted kids united in their intelligence and disdain for the iock culture of Columbine High, "At din-

afraid of him. But six months ago we buried the hatchet, and I really thought he had changed. I thought he was a new Eric.

Brown says he realized how wrong he was five days later, when Harris and Klebold launched the Columbine massacre, murdering 13 and wounding 23 before killing themselves in circumstances (Double suicide? Murder-suicide?) that the authorities have not yet clarified. Brown had been spending a good deal of time with these deadly friends. and he understands them as well as anyone now alive. But he insists he never had a

ciation with Harris and Klebold has drawn sus-

picion-"I don't know what he is," says District Attorney Dave Thomas, "and we are not ruling anyone out"-the friendship may also have saved his life. Brown chanced upon Harris in the school parking lot just minutes before the shooting began. Harris was pulling a duffel bag of matériel from his car: Brown says he didn't know what was in it. He mentioned a philosophy test Harris had missed that



morning. "Doesn't matter anymore," said Harris. Brown says he didn't know what that meant-nor what Harris was planning when he told Brown to get away from the school, saying, "Brooks, I like you. Now get out of here. Go home." Others who know Harris believe sentiment had nothing to do with Harris' decision to spare Brown. They think Brown was simply too far away from the cafeteria for Harris to kill, because doing so would have given those inside a chance to get away, spoiling his carefully polished game plan. Says Brown: "I hate what they did, but they were my friends. Not many people will say that about them. Not many people really know them."

ITTLETON BURILD TS YOUNG
last week, and the sky had the
good sense to cry. When 5,000
gathered to celebrate the short
life of Isainh Shoels, a warmhearted young man slain because he was African American,
Columbine survivors walking in
the rain to the Hertiage Christian Center
didn't bother to open their umbrellas; if
they could feel the rain on their faces, they
must be alive. Inside the vast modern sanctuary, the explanations tended to be
straightforward: Satan had taken control of
Harris and Klebold.

Throughout the week, police searched for accomplices (no arrests were made, but authorities at week's end said they still had 10 to 15 potential suspects) and responded to accusations that they failed to heed warning signs of the plot. Many students were searching for secular explanations as well. They got together in houses to talk and weep and speculate; sometimes the boys fantasized about what commando tactics they might have used to halt the killing spree-the next logical but sad step for a tragedy fueled from the start by violent, cartoonish fantasies. And like so many other people across the country, they groped for answers that would not come.

Though there's always something unknowable about the motives of these student mass murderers. Harris' role in the massacre was no surprise to some Columbine students: they assumed it was Harris as soon as they realized someone was shooting. The son of a retired Air Force officer and a caterer-decent, wellintentioned people who seem to have been wholly outmatched by their cold, manipulative son-Harris was not an unlikely candidate for suburban mayhem. In his childhood, moving with his family from Air Force bases in Ohio and Michigan and upstate New York, he was remembered fondly. "He was just a quiet boy trying to fit in,"

says Plattsburgh, N.Y., Little League coach Terry Condo. But at Columbine he preferred to stand apart from the crowd. Though the antidepressant Luvox was prescribed to keep his brain chemistry more or less in balance, he was capable of violent outpursts, slow-boil intimidation and murderous rage. He had just been rejected by both the Marine Corps and reportedly several colleges. His class was moving ahead, but describe his intelliernee. he was not.

Klebold was the bigger mystery. Shy and a little sad, with a where's-the-floor gaze and a sullen streak, he moved faster when he was in Harris' wake, drawing energy and confidence from him. Yet he seemed to be looking forward to a future that didn't involve guns and bombs. He told people that Harris' pseudo-Nazisms bothered him. At the school prom he giggled and slow-danced with his date, and even held hands-a big move for a too-tall kid who had not yet had his first girlfriend. He and his father Tom, a geophysicist who had moved into the mortgage-services business, had just spent five days visiting the University of Arizona, where Dylan was to attend in the fall. His mother Sue, who worked in job placement for the disabled, was worried about him, but never glimpsed the scope of the problem. She thought getting him out of Columbine





would do the triek, and Dylan seemed to agree. lust a few days before the shooting. Dylan told his friend Terra Oglesbee that he "couldn't wait to graduate." He was playing in his beloved fantasy baseball league until the night before the siege, making plans to trade players on the day he silled so many and then died. Was this a masterful cover, or did his mind fail to process what the killing spree would mean? Why would he follow Harris into bell on earth, laughing as they shaughtered or maimed people he knew, people he in some cases truly cared about?

People like Rachel Scott, a beatific presence at the high school who hoped to become a missionary. After she had been buried, some of Scott's classmates recalled a talent show last year in which she did a mime dance portraying Simon of Cyrene, who carried Jesus' cross along part of the Via Dolorosa. Midway through the performance the music cut out, leaving her stranded. The guy in the sound booth, who obviously liked her, scrambled to hook up to the sound pay was Kichesine formance. The sound pay was Kichesine formance. The sound pay was Kichesine to the same boy have fun carrying out the massacre that took her light?

"If Dylan can do this, who isn't capable of it?" asks Brooks Brown's father Randy, a longtime friend of Tom and Sue Klebold.

Battling the Columbine Copycats

PORTING A THREE-QUARTER-ENDERTH PARKA, THE LAYERAPOLD BOY SAINtered toward the doors of W. R. Myers High School in Taber, a small town in the Canadian province of Alberta, Someone smirked, "Do you have a gun out a .82-cal..rife, killing at 17-year-old boy and ortically wounding another.

On its own, the erine would have been horrible enough, But coming just eight days after the Littleton massacre, it was the centerpiece of a fewered week of expect of incidents at schools serous the continent. Authorities rounded up scores of Risds for allegedly plotting to Blow up their schools, meaking gusts onto campus or horseitening to off their enemies. Some schools hirred guards, others canceled classes altogether. There is no telling easietly how many of these threats were serous. But it's clear that Littleton, at the very loast, has given troubled and misguided kids anew way to garner attention. Most lods agent interested in this stuff, says Ellies a Benedick, a professor of ellinical psychiatry at the University of Michigan. But

there are lots of unhappy ones who want their moment in the sun, and this is one way to do it."

One threat that was almost surely serious took place in Wimberley, Texas, where four 14-year-old boys were arrested April 23 for allegedly plotting to blow up Danforth Junior High School. Though the plot was initiated well before the Colorado massacre. Littleton was probably what spurred fellow students to report the boys after overhearing them bragging. Authorities who searched their homes said they found gunpowder and bomb-building instructions downloaded from the Internet. The eighth-graders were charged with conspiracy to manufacture explosives and commit murder and arson.

Other incidents were more ambiguous. Five teens at William McKinley Junior High



AFTERSHOCKS Texas authorities arrest four eighth-grade boys for allegedly plotting to blow up their junior high school

School in Brooklyn, N.Y., were arrested after boasting about plans to blow up their school on graduation day. The students insisted they were just joking. Authorities slapped them with conspiracy charges nevertheless. Schools in Hillsborough, N.J., were shut down for a day when students received e-mail warnings, "If you think what happened in Colorado was bad, wait until you see what happens in Hillsborough Middle School on Friday." In Bakersfield, Calif., authorities yanked a 13-year-old boy out of school after his classmates spotted him loading a .40-cal. handgun. He had a hit list of 30 names with "they deserved to die" scrawled at the bottom. The epidemic has put school administrators in a tough position. "Now everyone has to be serious about everything," says Paul Houston, executive director of the American Association of Administrators in Arlington, Va., "because they're afraid if they aren't, they might be jeopardizing children." At the same time, the American Civil Liberties Union has been deluged with complaints from parents whose children were suspended for wearing black or making provocative statements on their web page. "There is a danger that schools are interpreting being different as being dangerous," says ACLU attorney Ann Beeson. "Any nonconformist kid fits some sort of profile of a killer." -By Tammerlin Drummond. With reporting by Hillary Hylton/Austin and Andrew Purvis/Toronto

with reporting by rimary regions/stated and solution Farvis, Foreing



"At some point Dylan cracked, and no one knew. His mom is rippin' herself up, trying to find out why. But Dylan's gone and there is no why." Klebold can't explain what came over him, but Brooks and some others can try. "Dylan was a follower, but he wouldn't follow just anyone," says Brooks. "He was as much of an individual as a follower can be."

It's almost two o'clock in the morning. and Brown, who shaved off all his hair and his beard last week because he needed a "fresh start," is stretched out on the carpet in his family's living room, trying to explain the inexplicable: What made Klebold latch on to Harris? "Eric was an incredible individualist." he begins slowly. "Charismatic. an eloquent speaker, well read, the kind of guy who could bulls ___ for hours about anything and be witty and brilliant." There was no sign of this erudition on Harris' website, but maybe he was role playing in those days. It's clear that Brown still feels Eric's pull as well. He knows he'll miss sitting around in the afternoon with him, eating and talking about ideas like Ayn Rand's objectivism, which sees man as a "heroic being" whose happiness is the purpose of his life. He'll miss their disturbed fiction (in one creative-writing class, Brown read aloud Harris' violent memoir about leaping over logs and battling aliens in his backvard at age five; Dylan wrote something about Satan opening a day-care center in hell). And he'll miss the reverse-snob solidarity that develops among people who feel both shunned by and more intelligent than the majority.

What Harris and Klebold shared, says Terra Oglesbee, who was in their creativewriting class too, was a poetic sensibility, "dark and sad. Their poems were always about plants dying and the san burning out. Whenever I heard them, I would just plug my ears because I can't stand stuff like that." Dylan rarely read his work aloud, she says, but Eric "was very lalative. He was a really good writer. He would help me cheat sometimes, pass me answers in tests and stuff." Though she is African American, she never sensed the racism that spilled out against Isaiah Shoels during the massacre. Maybe that day they were role playing again.

Very or fairly well Pretty or very badly

HOUGH COLUMBINE STUDENTS tagged Harris' group the Trench Coat Mafia, a name that suggests some level of organization when there was none, every high school has its intellectual outsiders. There are times longingly apart from the per paties and the supplement of the period of the supplement of the period of the supplement of the supple

At Columbine, which has won 32 statewide sports championships in this decade, athletes and cheerleaders don't bother hiding that they are the élite. "It's the greatest school with the greatest kids," says golden-boy track and football star Scott Schulte. "We are perfect, and the atmosphere is perfect." Those who are imperfect tend to disagree. Columbine athletes, many of the non-athletes say, receive favorable treatment from school officials and often harass those on whom they look down. A number of Columbine students, who don't want to be named because they fear reprisals, described athletes routinely shoving, cursing and throwing rocks and bottles



at Harris, Klebold and others: The school denies playing favorites, and jocks deny harassing anybody. The press, says Schlub, believe anything these kids say. They tell you that the jocks picked on them, and you print it. It's radiculous. "Seven months ago, the sheriff's department warned the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners about growing violence in the Columbine area, including fighting, by ganglike groups of athletes. School officials at the time called the report exagerated.

Double standards and badgering, a Double standards and Klebold friends say, helped drive them to bombs and bullets. No one is suggesting that getting picked on is an excuse for committing mass murder, but they call it the context for Harris and Klebold's rage. "Did they snapp? I think they snapped a bunch of times," says Brooks Brown. "Every time someone slammed them against a locker and threw the commentary of the comment

The plotting seems to have begun in April 1998, thu no one has yet been able to pinpoint what set it off. It was a tense time at Columbine, with fights brewing between jocks and skateboarders, jocks and Goths, and nearly everyone picking on the guys in the trench coats. Whatever the calasyt, the spring of that year marked a last turning point for Harris. The rage he had displayed on his website didn't abate, but it did go underground, as he honed his ability to fool authority figures, especially parents. "Id say his parents were in denial, but the truth is, this kid was good," says



memorials for the two killers last weekend

Randy Brown. "He had a strong, manipulative personality. He could convince his dad of anything." After Harris cracked Brooks' car windshield with that ice ball last winter, for instance. Harris told his father that he thought he was throwing a harmless snowball. His dad believed him, but Judy Brown didn't. "You can pull the wool over your father's eyes," she told Eric, "but you can't pull it over mine." He pre-tended to be offended. "You calling me a liar" he demanded. "Yes, I suppose I am," she said. Harris stomped away.

In March, according to Harris' website, he and Klebold were busy making their first pipe bombs. But they gave few clues to the people around them. Appearing before Jefferson County magistrate John DeVita on March 25, after being arrested for breaking into a car and stealing electronics equipment, Harris and Klebold made like latter-day Eddie Haskells: "Yes. Your Honor ... No, Your Honor." That persuaded DeVita (who knew nothing of Harris' website) to agree to put them in a juvenile diversion program, and charges were dropped in return for their performing community service and enrolling in "anger management" classes

A week after Harris yanked his venmous website offline, he had replaced it with an equally venomous secret diayathe one in which, authorities say, he plotted his campaign to take out Columbine High. The diary hasn't been made public. But in the months of late 1998 and early 1999, there were many preparations: guns to acquire, bombs to make, locations to scout, timing to perfect. In the fall of 1998, Klebold and Harris made a video for a class project—a video in which they dress in

After the Grief: The Lawyers

LISABETH KUBLER-BOSS HAS DELINEATED FIVE STACES OF REACTION TO death, from denial to acceptance, but in America there is a sixth litigation. Just days after the Columbine shootings, the father of Isaiah Shoels, a slain 18-year-old, made a call to attorney Coeffery Fieger, framous for defending Jack Keverkian, about representing his family. No suits have been filed yet, and Colorado bars lawyers from soliciting clients for 30 days after an incident. But its probable that a wave of lawsuits is coming from the victims families and from those injurred in the shootings. What is less certain is what good they will do.

Who could be sued? The killers' parents are obvious targets. Many find it hard to believe the Harrises and Klebolds didn't have a clue that their kids were buying guns, making bombs and spending a year plotting the rampage. Still, the law makes it difficult to prevail in suits against parents for the acts of children. And even if the plaintiffs beat the odds, the families' assets and homeowner's insurance wouldn't go far. The school district is another possibility; if it is shown that Columbine High officials ignored signs that Harris and Klebold were a threat. Among those warning signails: a videotepte he two boys made simulating a school bloodbath; and some verball threats made by Harris. Yet even if the school blunderd. Colorado gives the government immunity except in arce cases.

Then there are the police. The Jefferson County sheriff has been faulted for failing to follow up on compliants by the parents of Brooks Brown that Harris had threatened their son. Police have also been criticized for not acting faster on April 20 to storm the school and stop the shootings. The strongest claim could come from the family of Dave Sanders, the teacher who bled to death while waiting there hours for help. Tet any suit against the police would again run into immunity problems, as well as the reluctance of courts to second-guess police on tactics. "It's not like Waco, where law enforcements' own action produced the death," asy Denver trial lawyer Bill Keating.

A few individuals could be liable: the gun seller whom police are investigating for selling a semiautomatic that may have been used in the killing; a

pizza-parlor co-worker of Harris and Klebold who may have been the middleman in the gun sale; and Robyn Anderson, Klebold's prom date, who police say bought three guns used in the massacre. But probably none of them have enough money to justify the time and effort of a suit. The victims might turn to bigger culprits. Victims of the Ionesboro, Ark., school killings have sued gunmakers, and victims of the Paducah, Ky., shooting are suing Time Warner and PolyGram, the maker of The Basketball Diaries, a movie in which a student imagines shooting his classmates

MOURING. The family of Isaleh Shoels, buried last Thursday, has already made inquiries.

Ironically, it is the survivors of the Columbine massacre, rather than the families of the dead, who may stand the best chance of collecting. The grimmest TV footage out of Littleton was of a badly injured boy dangling out of a window until he could be rescued by a swar team. Patrick Ireland, 17, was shot in the brain and is partially paralyzed on his right side. He is likely to have enormous medical bills for years. If victims like him were to seek redress in court, it would take a jury with a heart of stone to send them home empty-handed. — 89, Adam Cohen. With reporting by Richard Woodbowy/Littleton.

trench coats, carry guns and blow away jocks, a murderous fantasy stoking a murderous reality. For Klebold, the planning and prep may have taken on an abstract quality: something he and Harris talked about only to each other, something that fueled their relationship, something they would plan forever but that would never actually happen. Until it did happen.

HEN HARRIS WAS TURNED down by the Marines on April 15, it was because of his antidepressants. A day before, Brandi Tinklenberg had turned down his invitation to the prom. Did these failures set him off? It's impossible to say. But five days later, he and Klebold started shooting. Fittingly, they had already computer-modeled their crime. The Simon Wiesenthal Center, which tracks Internet hate groups, discovered last week in its archives a copy of Harris' website with a version of the bloody shoot-'em-up video

game Doom he had customized. In Harris' version there are two shooters, each with extra weapons and unlimited ammunition, and the people they encounter can't fight back. When Harris and Kitebold went into Columbine on April 20, says an Internet investigator associated with the Wissenthal Center, "they were playing out their game in God mode."

Brooks Brown makes much the same point. "What they did wann't about anger or hate," he says. "It was about them living in the moment, like they were inside a video game." As long as they were rolling with the seem real to them. But that explanation aboves the killers to easily. is It really possible that the flesh and blood of the maimed and dying was no more real to them than pixels on a video monother Brown branch and dying was no more real to them than they have a moment of over-whelming remonse," he surmises. "Or maybe one does, while the other is still lost inside the game."

Harris' customized Doom game was programmed so that the shooter who runs

out of ammunition dies first. Inside Columbine, that was never an issue. But maybe one of them ran out of fantasy first. "I think Dylan would have snapped out of it. while Eric was still in the moment," says Brown. "Maybe that's when they get into their own gunfight." Rumors are swirling among the students that the end did not come with a double suicide. "I keep hearing that Eric's bullets were found in Dylan's body," says Terra Oglesbee. Another version has Harris and Klebold counting to three, then executing each other; some lawenforcement sources say it could even be true. Though ballistics results have not been released. District Attorney Dave Thomas told TIME that the forensics suggest double suicide. But given the location of one wound and the fact that the bullet that passed through Klebold's head has not been recovered, he doesn't dismiss the possibility of a murder-suicide. Says Thomas: "We may never know." Game Over. - With reporting by John Cloud, S.C. Gwynno, Maureen Harrington and Jeffrey Shapiro/Littleton; Elaine Rivera/Plattsburgh; and Richard Woodbury/Derwei

Tipper Gore

Drop the Stigma

To keep kids from lashing out, parents must urge them to accept help



THE ALARM THAT SOUNDED IN LITTLETON should wake up all Americans to the special needs of our children. This nightmare is ours because of this hard truth: the toxic culture of guns and screen violence that kids have to navigate has been created by adults who are supposed to offer protection and guidance.

We must ask ourselves, What are we, as the adult community, using to do? Yes, the entertainment industry needs to stop solling maybem to children. Yes, the gun industry needs to to stop fighting to put a gun within everyone's reach. Yes, espoliticains need to look at these issues in a sincere and biparitian effort and ruly tast delivise tools in campaigns, And yes, the media need to do more than use tragedies for headlines. But what resonability are we as individuals soin to accept?

Just days after the Columbine shootings, I visited a high school and listened to teenagers discuss their fears and reactions. All of them said they knew kids who were troubled. Most knew kids who were depressed or had attempted suicide. Some knew kids who were openly discussing violence to the point that the speakers were frightened of them. One student told me, "My friends know they need help, and we know they need help, but they are ashamed to come forward because they fear being labeled."

If we are serious about stopping the violence and helping our children, we as adults need to erase the stigma that pre-

vents our kets from getting the help they need for their mental habilit five know a child had a broken arm, we would take that child to an emergency room. And five know a child is depressed or allenated, we need to take emergency action and stay involved with the problem. One of the young killers in Colorado is reported to have once been prescribed an antidepressant, but we don't know if he had stopped taking it or what other kind of treatment he might have been receiving.

Our children also need us to help them develop good judgment in picking their way through the minefields in to-day's society. We need to stop treating them as miniature adults. It is better to give children a rule to break than to give them no rules at all. But parents need the support of the entre community. They need leaders and business owners to help them enforce the protections already in place, from theaters turning waxy kids from adult-rated movies to net-works promoting the V-chip. Parents need the community to come up with new protections, especially on the Internet.

Last Sunday, as my husband and I grieved with the people of Littleton, a parent of one of the victims said to him, "You

have got to tell me that these children did not die in vain. We've got to make changes. Promise me that you will." Our country needs to make this promise in every house, on every street, in every community. And then we need to keep it.

The Vice President's wife is a longtime advocate of mental-health reform



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Margaret Carlson

An Outrage That Will Last

The public has had its fill of politicians who won't touch the gun problem

F SEATOR JOHN MCCAIN HAS SHOWN WHAT HE IS MADE OF by becoming shadow Commander in Chief druing the war in Kosovo, Al Gore may do the same during the war in Kosovo, Al Gore may do the same during the war in the schools. Unlike so many others, he didn't single out culture or guns for blame, but immediately addressed both. He and Tipper were for values before it was cool. If his below-malar efforts last week are successful, the man who clumsily calimed to have created the Internet may be the one to clean it up, getting the biggest players to voluntarily keep the worst sites from children.

Gore came out squarely for gun control, even as the President initially hung back. While the Republicans pandered to the powerful gun lobby, which targets heretics for defeat. Gore spoke eloquently at the memorial service in Littleton (even if he does mistake shouting and arm chops for animation). The raw sadness of burying children had temporarily alleviated his stiffness, and he plaintively asked, "What say we into the open muzzle of this tragedy, cocked and aimed at our hearts?

At a campaign stop in the living room of a turn-of-the-century house in Dubuque, Iowa, he told how the father of a dead child had asked

him in a whisper to promise that his child and the other had not died in vain. Gore did. If his words rang true, it may have been

If his words rang true, it may have been because Republicans hit so many false notes. Dan Quayle led the clanging chorus, warning that the massacre should not be

used "as an excuse to go and take away guns." He sounded like gun lobbysis Neal Knox, who fretted that "fresh victims" bring out the "anti-gun" fanaties. The other Republican presidential contenders avoided blaming weapons in favor of blaming the culture, except McCain, who flicked at the gun problem in a joint letter with Democrats asking for a White House summit on the entertainment industry. Texas Covernor Coerge W. Bush found himself doing another waffle. Responding to Littleton, he said he supported background heckels for people buying weapons at Texas gun shows or flea markets, but a bill to that effect had just died in committee without his support. Asked if he planned to revive it, he said no because it was "flawed." Then the candidate of small government said maybe Congress should take un the issue.

In Congress, while Democrats were pushing stringent legislation, the boldest move by Republicans was to call for a "national dialogue" by religious and other leaders that would 'inform the nation about modern culture and its impact on youth." Senate majority leader Trent Lott seemed intent on keeping his earlier vow that gum control legislation would never pass on his watch. He called the renewed push for gun control a typical "knee-jerk reaction" to the shootings and staved off for at least two weeks an effort to have a vote, in the hope that emotions will cool. The House, heavily mortraged to the gun lobby, has schouled no bills. House Re-

publican whip Tom De-Lay, whose office was the site of the murder of one of the two Capitol guards slain by a crazed gunman last summer, accused Clinton of exploiting tragedy for political benefits.

Republicans are betting that this too will pass, that as with Jonesborn and Paducah, Pearl and Sportifield, once the white coffins are in the ground and the cameras gone, the outrage will subside. But maybe not this time. In town meetings and talk radio, the public has had its fill of politicians talking resignedly about our gun culture, as if there's nothing to be done about a subgroup that finds school-

yard massacres an accept-

able cost for its right to be armed to the teeth. But if the Constitution speaks of a "well-regulated militia," why don't we regulate it? Surely the sarest teenager isn't militia material. Gun ownership should not start until age 21, and it should require a background check at every purchase point, and a waiting period.

Just as no one has a right to a machine gun, no one should have a right to a semiautomatic weapon, or a gun that can be altered to become one. Of course guns should have safety locks.

Just a year ago in Jonesboro, teacher Shannon Wright, mother of a two-year-old, stopped a bullet for another mother's child. Two week ago, Dave Sanders bled to death after directing lids to safety. And were supposed to think gan buyers can't endure a little red tape, a little delayed gratification in making their purchase? Without gans, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were menacing misfits in trench coats essing on Internet svall. With gans, they became merciless mass marderers. We is huggy for a politician who can stand both of the standarders of the huggy for a politician who can stand both of the standards of



Arms and the Boys
Daniel's father Tom Mauser
protesting the N.R.A.
Convention in Deriver at the
steps of the Colorado capitol



Introduce approving a cerebral Schedul costoler and was been been proposed in the common particles of the common particles of

"I'm not concerned about paying loads and transaction fees.

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LEILANI ALSO LIKES SCHWAB BECAUSE THEY HAVE SO MANY MUTUAL FUNDS IN ONE PLACE. AND THEY CONSOLIDATE EVERYTHING IN ONE MONTHLY STATEMENT.

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Charle R Selenda

"I was a homemaker, raising three children," says Leilani. "When my husband passed away, I didn't know anything about investing. It was very difficult. I went to two brokerage firms who both charged big loads and fees."

And Schwab?

"Most of my mutual funds are now from Schwab Mutual Fund OneSource All the funds there are

no-load, and there are no transaction fees. And it's organized. You get your account information in one monthly statement that tells you how to read it. Schwab is constantly teaching and helping."

With OneSource, Leilani can choose from over 1,000 no-load, no-transaction-fee mutual funds from most of America's best-known fund families. At Schwab, you also have access to nearly every topperforming no-load fund that was rated 4 or 5 stars by

Morningstar based on historical performance.

"For a widow and a single parent on a fixed income, it's the best thing for me," Leilani says,

And what about Schwab's investment specialists?

"They're very knowledgeable. They explained everything. They really care about their customers." Any closing thoughts, Leilani?

"I feel comfortable at Schwab. They've made such a big difference in my life. They renewed my faith. They've lowered my anxiety level, I'm in control. But I'm not in it alone."

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RAISING KIDS ONLINE WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

We want our kids to use the Net but worry about what they'll find. Here are some ways to steer them straight

By DANIEL OKRENT

N THE MORNING OF TUESDAY, APRIL 20, AS the sun rose over Littleton, Colo., more than 14 million American teenagers punched off their alarm clocks, scarfed their breakfasts, brushed their teeth, rushed off to school ... and did not kill their classmates. On that day, like other days. 40% of those teenagers-a number that has doubled in the past two years alone-logged on to the Internet. The vast majority did not encounter recipes for pipe bombs or deranged rants about white supremacy. Most were getting sports scores, downloading the most recent Britney Spears cut, chatting with friends. Some were even doing their homework, tapping into colorful libraries of information on the rain forests, data about particle physics, essays on Hamlet

These are things, true things all, that we try to impress on our children, and ourselves, as we struggle to come to terms with the slaughter in Colorado and the vivid gash it has left in our psyche. We know that the Internet couldn't possibly be the source of the demons that drove the two killers. We want our kolds to use the Net, we know that this technological wonder, every bit as revolutionary as the light bulb or the telephone, is going to shape all our lives in the century ahead.

And yet we worry, because we are parents and because we are citizens. Since Littleton, we worry not so much about our kids' or their classmates' being turned

into mass murderers as about something more persistently troubling: that even if our kids aren't playing blood-soaked computer games or plotting violence in the dark crannies of an online chat room, they are plunging into a whole world of influences and values and enticements that is, most of the time, hidden from our view.

At any moment, those same kids exploring jungle fauna or listening to ... Baby One More Time are just a few keystrokes away from Pandora's hard drive-from the appalling filth, unspeakable hatred and frightening prescriptions for homicidal mayhem that the Littleton massacre evoked. If you listened to the conversations at PTA meetings and around Little League diamonds last week, it was as if we'd already forgotten that the Internet brings us vital medical information, cross-cultural dialogue, vast stores of learning and beauty and virtue. Yet what comfort is that to a parent who came across a website last week in which the index included the following entries: "Counterfeit Money," "Hot-Wiring Cars," "Breaking into Houses," "Thermite Bombs," "Tennis Ball Bomb"? Such is the power of Web technology that the simple act of listing the phrases here will make it possible for anyone to type these words into a search engine and immediately locate the site that houses them.

Read this page, then burn it.

Would that it were so easy. The Internet is as persistent as it is potent, an indelible and uncontainable presence in the culture. In fact, the Internet isn't separate from the culture at all; it is the culture. All the trash, flot-





sam and spillage of our society gets its moment there, where the tiniest obsession has its spot on the shelf, right next to Bach and charity and sunsets. The Internet lets a million flowers bloom, and a million weeds.

One might wander through the rank reaches of this garden for a reason: a teacher or a parent who feels the need to know how bad it can be out there. Or maybe a racist searching for kindred spirits, or someone lusting for

images of brutality or sex. Often, though, you wander because you're 13.

Where an earlier generation of children sneaked hygiene texts off library shelves to giggle over drawings of the human reproductive system, our kids can now cruise through unspeakable swamps. But ask Michael Thompson, a clinical psychologist based in Boston, if the kids he sees think of themselves as imperiled. "Because there's a lot of omnipotent thinking in adolescents." he says, "and because the dangers are somewhat more abstract than climbing trees, I don't feel they perceive the dangers in anything like the way adults do."

And it's not as if governmental action can really make any difference. The Internet is too diffuse, too international, too much the cat that long ago escaped the bag, Besides, as Bernda Laurel, a Silicon Valley veteran and mother of three girls, says, "Resisting open access to the Internet isn't going to be an effective strategy.

It just makes it forbidden fruit."

If there is a war to be fought, the critical beachhead is in the home. For the wonder and the horror of the Web is not that it takes you out into the world; on the contrary, it brings the world-in all its glorious, anarchic, beautiful, hateful variety-into your home. We'd all prefer that the porn. the neo-Nazis, the violent misogynists and all the other floating trash of a cacophonous culture not wash up into our living rooms. But because they do, we are at least able to know the enemy. We can devise strategies to steer our children away from what's worst on the Net, and toward what is best. even as they grow up much, much too fast.

I think I first felt the parental quiver of fear when I had my initial encounter with a chat room—that invisible meeting spot where the impressionable encounter the unknowable. Web fans say that the Internet, and chats in particular, force interaction, engagement, connection. The favored

term for all the Web's weightless, disembodied conversation is community. But in fact, the Web provides only a shadow of community, the interaction with another human being that is held out as the great virtue of Web community is actually interaction with the facsimile of a human being

action with the facsimile of a human being.
I remember passing through the study
in our house when my 13-year-old daughter
was engaged in a chat with someone who

said she was a 15-year-old Californian named Cheryl.

It occurred to me—and I suggested to my daughter—that her chatmate, with whom she was sharing the sort of intimacies a 13-year-old will indulge in, could just as likely be a 53-year-old backwoods hermit named Earl. It was a nauseating thought to both of us.

And it was frightening evidence of how, as the widdum has matured, its architects' noble commitment to the user's privacy was becoming inverted. What was once a protective shield has now morphed into an obseuring cloak of anonymity. Inventive screen names and inve

TIME/CNN TEEN POLL

What do your parents know about the websites you visit?* Nothing

Do your parents have rules about your internet use, and do you follow them?*

Want personal information like your address or phone number 58%

From a telephone poll of 409 American teenagers 13 to 17 year taken for TME/CMM on April 27-29 by frankelonich Parlmers Inc. Sampling error is $\pm 4.3\%$. This series "entitled" "Asked of the 341 who use the Internet; sampling error is ± 5 ."

FAMILIES

coy e-mail addresses have replaced those conventional aisigns of identity; a name, a face. Under the banner of privacy, Internet anonymity has become the ultimate plain brown wrapper. Some parents who decline to monitor their kids' on line chatting liken it to eavesdropping on their phone calls, which they say they would never do. But there's a difference:

who's on the other end of the line. Privacy can be a dicey an issue within the household as it is out on the Web itself. There are thousehold as it is out on the Web itself. There are thousehold sail its out on the reading the kids' e-mail, monitoring their chasts and tracking their Web travels is a solemn parental obligation. "I have every right to read their e-mail," says Bruce Cohen, a Reno, New, father of two. Legals The responsible for them until they're 18." I'm responsible for them until they're 18." I'm responsible for them until they're 18." mail file is no different from opening apermal file is no different from opening aperand-paper diary that your daughter keeps under lock and key in a dresser drawer. A lot of parents—not to mention kids—find lot of parents—not to mention kids—find

when your child's on the phone, she knows

that a breach of parent-child trust. But even if e-mail is considered inviolate, there are tactics by which the alert parent can control it. America Online, the Internet service provider used by nearly 17 million households, allows parents to limit incoming e-mail to a finite list of correspondents. In any e-mail program, a scan of the senders' addresses can give you a good idea of the nature of your kid's correspondents. The proliferation of mailing lists being such a Web commonplace, what's coming in can sometimes tell you what's been going out: even unsolicited e-mail-from, say, a Ku Klux Klan site-can be a clue that someone's been surfing some

pretty scary pages. In fact, this sort of Web transparency can actually be a boon to worried parents. If your teenager is going places in the material world and doing things that you wouldn't approve of, you may never know it. If he's connecting with the world's ugliness on the Web, you may have a chance to track it down. Some parents make a regular practice of typing their kids' names and nicknames into a search engine, which gives the parents a shot at discovering what the kids are saving on their own websites or on message boards and

THE WEB brings the world with all its glory—but also with all its evils—into your living room. Who polices it?

what others are saying about them. Everyone agrees that

h 1006

tion blds ages

Everyone agrees that
the most effective way to
monitor kids' online activity
is... to monitor it. Literally. To
stand beside the computer from
time to time when your son is at the
ing on keyboard, watching his every mouse click,
there might lof foreure, but when he

keyboard, watching his every mouse click, mindful, of course, that when he starts typing numerals—1,2,3,4—he could be using the chat signal that says "parental unit nearby." If the count reaches five, he's telling his chat partners there's a parent reading the screen.

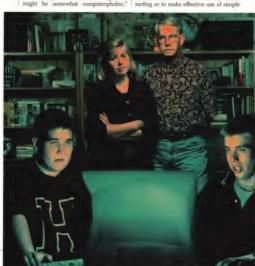
Every parent should also take advantage of the wonderful excuse the Web has given us to keep credit cards from our teenage kids. Entry past the first or second level to most porn sites—and to other be-

yond-the-pale operations of hustling Web entrepreneurs—is governed by the ability to key in a valid card number. But beyond random shoulder surfing and convenient-credit-card denial, we parents have a more potent range of options

than we may be aware of. "A lot of parents

says Ed Donnerstein, co-director of the Center for Communication and Social Policy at the University of California at Santa Barbara, explaining why we seem so undone by the perceived threats of the Web. But it doesn't take a degree in electrical engineering to know, for instance, that your kids should be admonished never to reveal personal information to anyone online without your permission-the digital equivalent of not taking candy from strangers. Or that something as simple as the computer's placement in the home can be an effective way to keep an eve on where your kids are going. One of my colleagues has put his family's computer on a balcony atop the stairs. Whenever the kids are surfing, Dad can see where they're going from his reading chair, and Mom can check in by leaning out the door of the upstairs study, where her computer lives. And the kids can see them. As kids get older and are likely to de-

As kids get older and are likely to demand a little more privacy, some basic technological know-how comes into play. Surprisingly few parents realize how easy it is to find out where their kids have been surfing or to make effective use of simple



software that would block access to tahon sites. Dale Berger-Daar, a Chicago early-childhood professional, says she can't check up on her 13-year-old son's activities even if she wants to. "He set the whole computer up," she says. "He can do whatever he wants." Tom Horan, a New Mexico lawyer and lobbyist, doesn't cheek his teenage sons' email simply because, he acknowledges, he doesn't know how. At least Berger-

Daar and Horan are honest. While more than 70% of parents in a recent Jupiter Communications survey asserted that they set at least some restrictions on their kids' Internet activities, a TIME/CNN poll of teenagers last week indicated that the kids see things somewhat differently: 62% said their parents know little or nothing about the websites their kids visit.

I think we know whom to trust. Parents who tell a pollster they're keeping an eye on things may really be relying wishfully on someone-anyone-else, probably at school. But schools and libraries stake a claim on too little of the child's time, and inescapable First Amendment issues make it unlikely that any public agency will be or should be able to play an effective role in controlling Net access and content. That can happen only at home. One family may respond to the Web's enticements by disconnecting the phone line; another may simply make them a regular topic of dinner conversation. And because we're each entitled to cleave to our own parenting ideology, | both would be right.

But both should also understand that there are tools that can make the task easier and more effective, chiefly filters that bar access to offensive or dangerous content and monitors that tell you where the browser has been browsing. America Online, despite all the odious get-rich-quick or get-horny-quick e-mail that it can't seem to keep out of my own mailbox, has been particularly effective in helping parents give their children an online experience under the firm guidance of its editors: a "kids-only" AOL account blocks young users from all but full-time-monitored chat rooms and prescreened kid-friendly sites.

Many other filtering systems work differently from AOL's, dumbly applying a list of forbidden words against the content of any site the user tries to see or simply blocking access to a list of sites ruled obscene or

	POLL

THILL ONLY TECH LOCK			
How much do you trust the information you get from:	GREAT DEAL	SOMEWHAT	NOT AT ALL
Your parents	83%	16%	1%
Teachers	61%	35%	3%
Religious leaders	55%	32%	11%
Friends	48%	49%	3%
TV news and newspapers	39%	53%	7%
The Internet	13%	62%	24%
■ Do you think it is a good idea or had idea for teenagers to have access to the Internet?	900D 78%	BAD D	NO FFERENCE 8%

otherwise objectionable. In both instances, the filter will almost always work like a blunt instrument. If you tried to get to the home page of the Almaden Valley (California) Youth Soccer League and you had a filter, you would be blocked because the filter, tuned to look out for pedophiles, might have the phrase "Boys Under 12" on the proscribed list. If "sex" is labeled taboo, you can't read the poet Anne Sexton. Katherine Borsecnik, the senior AOL official involved in the development of the service's generally laudable parental controls, acknowledges that "if I have a middle school child who's going to do a research report on breast cancer"-a child with kids-only AOL access can't view sites with even straight medical information about breasts-"I might want to turn off the filters" while helping the child with the research.

Yet the most advanced filters available make it unnecessary to do so. CyberPatrol, a piece of retail software from the same company that manages AOL'S Web filters, is a customizable system that allows parents to choose which types of sites to block based on the parents' criteria. I may not want to block my children from information about gay and lesbian politics, but let's say you do: CyberPatrol accommodates. So does Net Nanny.

Pokémon: The Cutest Obsession

AS VIDEO GAMES GO, Pokémon is a far cry from Doom. Rather than annihilating demons with an arsenal of firepower, kids manipulate a group of cloyingly cute critters whose primary form of battle is a glorified version of rock, paper, scissors. There are no guns, no blood-no one even dies. Players choose a starter Pokémon (short for pocket monster), then nurture and train it to battle other monsters using such "weapons" as water, fire and electricitv. After defeating a foe, the original monster becomes more powerful. The aim is to become a "master trainer" by vanquishing all 150 challengers.

With its benevolent characters and empowering ethic of "whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger." Pokémon is unlikely to spur kids to purchase assault weapons. But it has inspired the kind of obsessive acquisitiveness not seen since-well, the Beanie Baby. When Pokémon was introduced in Japan in 1996, the characters immediately captivated the preteen set, particularly young boys. Pokémon creatures such as Pikachu (a vellow catlike mite) and Poliwhirl (a disk with bulging eyes) were soon presiding over a media juggernaut, including an animated TV show and trading cards, and appearing on everything from cell phones to hot-dog

Now the fever has spread to the U.S. Within a month of its debut last September, the TV series-less a cartoon than a half-hour exercise in Pokémon product placement-be-

packages.

came the highest-rated children's show in the U.S., first in syndication and now on the WB network. Nintendo has sold 2.5 million Pokémon Game Boy cartridges in seven months, making it the fastest-selling product in company history. Since January, 850,000 Pokémon trading-card sets have been sold in the U.S.. and kids flock to malls to participate in official trading bazaars. So preoccupied are kids with the trad-



Many parents don't realize that a simple click on the "history" tab on a browser tool bar will produce a list of links to every site the computer has visited recently. It's true that any canny 13-year-old knows how to delete potentially incriminating evidence from the history files. Already, though, there are several programs available, such as Cyber Snoop (at least the manufacturer doesn't euphemize), that create a tamperproof database-a trail of bread crumbs, as it were-so parents can examine every Web address the computer has visited since the last time Dad checked in. But consider this evidence of the complexity of the privacy issue: Susan Getgood, a vice president of the company that makes CyberPatrol, suggests that monitors have their own problems. "If a preteen is a child of an alcoholic parent," she asks, "and goes

to a website that discusses alcohol abuse, and the parent finds out, what happens then?"

Many Internet service providers offer filtering services. But because of the need to appeal to the largest audience, they may go much further in their proscriptions than some parents would want. Amy Bruckman, a computer-science professor at Georgia Tech, points out that 'a lot of these filtering companies are not making clear what their values are, their method for deciding what is acceptable and what is not.' That's why it's so important to buy a filter that can be tunned to your family's

The Center for Democracy & Technology, a Washington advocacy organization,

HAVE were feel crassed between filters on the market. The number of Net safety towns available tooler:

make information on the growing pool of safety tools more widely available on the Web. Parents need to be able to find this information in a central, organized place, says ex-

is leading a campaign to

ecutive director Jerry Berman. Still, even the best of these tools, deployed with the greatest care, work only when they're coupled with bold parental involvement. Bonnie Fell, of Skokie, Ill., is the family Internet cop, making certain at least once a month to open all the files that have been downloaded by her two teenage sons-which she'll do, she says. "whether the boys are there or not. And they know it." Carleton Kendrick, a family therapist in Medfield, Mass., suggests that accompanying your child to a website he frequents is no different from "checking out a playground where your kids go, to see that it's safe, to see who hangs around there

Of course, if your kids are teenagers, they're eventually going to find ways to get online when you're not around. Or they'll have learned how to disable every filter but the one they cannot break on their own: the human bond between parent and child. "Im C.J.'s mother, so I'm responsible for what he does," says Kelley Jones, a Detroit single mom who generally allows her 13-year-old son to browse just about any website he wishes on the computer in the living room, as long as he discusses what he finds. Says Jones: "It's discusses what he finds."

a waste of time to blame technology for parents' mistakes." Or, as Jim Lynch, who manages message boards for the Boston-based

Family Education Network, says, "Parents are the ultimate filter."

As they always have been. Consider this picture: a kid sits alone in front of his computer, cruising the Internet. In the background a CD

player blares misogynistic obscenities. In another room, the television features a teenage heroine contemplating violence against her classmates. The local sixplex is playing a film that spills more blood than a slaughterhouse hoses down in a month. And in most states, if you can't buy a gun with a few phone calls and a couple of hundred bucks, vou haven't really tried

Now you go into that kid's room, unplug the computer and walk out. What have you really accomplished? —Respected by Maryanne Murray Buschner/New York, Nichole Christani Detroit, Wendy Cole and Maggie Sieger! Chicago, Nancy Harbert/Albisquerque, Michael Krantt/San Francisco and Elaine Marshall/Roon



ing cards, sor

ing cards, some schools have banned them.
For most parents, the Family, thinks it's p sible. The technology be hind most video games,

For most parents, Pokémon seems a relatively benign, if exasperating fad. But could it be a gateway to more dangerous obsessions? David Walsh, a child psychologist and founder of the National Institute on Media and



the Family, thinks it's possible. The technology behind most video games, he explains, is based on a psychological principle called "operant conditioning"essentially, stimulusresponse-reward. "Research has shown that operant conditioning is a powerful shaper and influencer of behavior," says Walsh. "The obsession is not about violence; it's about how engrossing the game becomes.

Walsh stresses the need to balance children's activities, which is not so easy when it comes to Pokémon. 'I play it whenever I can get my hands on it, 'asy eight-year-old Chad Boecke of Kenosha, Wis, Joshua Tunis, also 8, of New York City, would play every waking moment if his parents din't set a kitchen timer to signal the game's end. Like most fads, Pokémania will undoubtedly fade. But there are no signs of that yet: the Pokémon movie is due out around

Thanksgiving. —By Micheld Orecklin. With reporting by Autumn De Leon/New York, Erik Gunn/Kenosha and Jeanne McDowell/Los Angeles

TIME, MAY 10, 1999

Zeida: Educational value, 2; Violence, 1



WORLD BUILDING

or build empires to rule the world over 5,000 from sewers to skyscrapers—in SIMI CITY 3000 builders. They can craft working metropolisesyears of history in CIVILIZATION: CALL TO The so-called God games turn kids into master

Sim City 3000: Educational value, 4; Violence, 0 POWER, the latest and greatest in the popular Civ series. A REAL-TIME STRATEGY



EMPIRES, which pits players against Hittites, Greeks and ways to win these real-time wars. AGE OF STARCRAFT because looking ahead, plotting Tast with games like AGE OF EMPIRES and Even though the battles are bloody, kids learn strategy and nusbanding resources are the only

ge of Empires: Educational value, 4; Violence, 2 omans, might even teach the kids a little history

SPORTS GAMES

ame as the ones you see on TV. What's the harm in a little angles and even the commentary are exactly the '99 soccer. The teams, the players, the camera go with it: NFL BLITZ, NCAA FINAL FOUR, FIFA lar, highly realistic, multiplayer console game to Pick any fast-moving sport, and there's a popul

NCAA Final Four: Educational value, 1; Violence, 1

FLIGHT SIMULATORS

while handling all the complexities of a modern Best-selling MICROSOFT FLIGHT SIMULATOR without. The aim, not surprisingly, is to stay alon now comes in two navors-with combat and

here's not too much maynem nto a commeid or re-enacting air combat from World War II cockpit. Unless you count deliberately crasning

licrosoft Flight Simulator: Educational value, 3; Violence, 1



FIGHT SIMULATORS

graphed beauty of a Hong Kong action flick and hardly any virtu blood. There are probably worse ways to let off steam guns, the TENNEN series has all the choreograms like TEKKEN 3 and VIRTUA FIGHTER the games that let players hide behind their Seem less violent and a lot less cowardly than

ekken 3: Educational value, 1; Violence, 3



If your kids feel the need for speed, try to steel MO, in which the worst they can do is drive reck-Chert Loward Call-racing garnes like GROW TURIS DRIVING SIMULATORS

Disney: Educational value, 2; Adult content, 0

leagues, cool graphics and fast downloads.

ONLINE GAMES

strangers. YAHOO'S GAMES PAGE scrapble by e-mail turns out to be a lot more raditional, wholesome fare—although playin yahoo.com/r/ga) is a good place to find



Yahoo's Games: Educational value, 2; Adult content, 0 addictive than you may think.

GATED COMMUNITIES

FOREST area just for kids (geocities.com pages, maintains an **ENCHANTED**

Freezone: Educational value, 3; Adult content, 0 offers monitored chat, e-postcards and its own kid zine. When Junior joins up, his folks are notified—and they can join too. weller-kid community can be found at FREEZONE.COM, which

CHAT ROOMS

CHAT (IRC) available at sites like the In the tree-for-all of INTERNET RELAY

to AOL'S MONITORED CHANNELS. Or point them to just-for of strangers with no adult supervision. globe.com, your kids can talk to hundreds

Kidlink: Educational value, 1; Adult content, 1 kids chat on private servers, like Addink.com/irc

E-COMMERCE

look of how to search for it. Credit-card GUNS, BEER, DRUGS, GAMBLING IT'S



requirements will keep most kids out of trouble (unless they prizes) to all comers. one site offers free bingo and card games (with large cash



SEX SITES

the public nome pages can be XXX-rated lot more besides. The good news: most SEX not want your kids to see is out there, and a stuffilling across and neavily publicized, and even their open-to ins and credit cards. Still, they're easy to sites are senous businesses and require log THE Dad news: everyoning you could possion











VIOLENCE





bombs to napaim, it's all available in infamous



WHAT'S OUT THERE IN THE DIGITAL WORLD A PRIMER FOR PARENTS ON

EDUCATIONAL SOFTWARE

U.S.A.7) comes pretty close. Kids chase the eponymous thief around the country, improving SANDLEGO SCHOOL HOLDS WHERE IN THE Few games succeed, but the CARMEN

Where in the U.S.A. Is Carmen Sandlego?: Educational eography skills. If only Carmen could do the same for algebra



ROLE PLAYING

MONKEY ISLAND) IS O.K. for all ages; GRIM problems to find their way out of each "scene direct the action and the dialogue and must solve The MONKEY ISLAND senes (latest: CURSE OF These games look like movies, except the players

Grim Fandango: Educational value, 2; Violence, 1

MYST) have become so popular with kids and OCARINA OF TIME and RIVEN (sequel to a dead body in sight. No wonder ZELDA: ADVENTURE Gorgeous graphics, ingenious puzzles and barely



HOMEWORK HELPERS

Internet

MHOLESOME

ONLINE has the most comprehensive ser sites and their vast databases of plagarizable term papers studyweb.com and lods.infoplease.com. But watch out for chear teachers an e-mail away. On the Web, try woe, with specialized "study rooms" and Here's where saintly kids surf. AMERICA

coment, 1





duction. Alternatively, try kids. asigeeves. com, which answers search for a perfectly innocent term like "girls," you're likely to It's a fact of Web life: If you AOL Homework Helper: Educational value, 5; Adult Type "sex" here, and you get exactly one site, on zygote repri search engines like YAHOOLIGANS (www.yahooligans.com) get a flood of X-rated home pages. The solution: kid-friendly SEARCH ENGINES SAVDITOOHVA.





the best bets for sports and ENTERTAINMENT



parts are spending a lot of money to attract young and espn.com. The MAGIC KINGDOM and its counter

parents. Without the visceral fear of losing

FANDANGO, with its noir-ish themes, is better for mature teens



THE OWNER THE TOT WE DESCRIBE . MOTHER WHEN THE

ARE VIDEO GANES REALLY SO BAD?

They mesmerize children. They frighten parents. But take heart: there are ways to tame the monsters in the box

By JOSHUA QUITTNER

VE ALWAYS ADORED VIDEO AND COMPUTER GAMES. And while I know it's not a happy time to admit this, I have particularly enjoyed some of the bloodier ones. I've sat many an afternoon at the PlayStation, blowing enemy warplanes out of the sky in Ace Combat 2. I find it re-

laxing, almost meditative. I love fighting games, such as the Samurai-slashing Bushido Blade or the kung fu-ish Tekken 2. They work out my twitchy reflexes. I've become lost for days on end in strategic battle simula-

tions, like Age of Empires, a game that lets you play God and create legions of workers and armies—and then lay waste to rival civilizations. And I was obsessed, like millions of other gamers, with the notorious "first-person shooter" called Doom as well as its progeny, Quake. I figured, where's the harm?

I'm telling you all this because statistics indicate that I'm pretty normal (despite what my wife would have you believe in her accompanying article). The electronic-games industry posted sales of \$5.5 billion in the U.S. in 1998, and was the second-most popular form of home entertainment after TV. According to

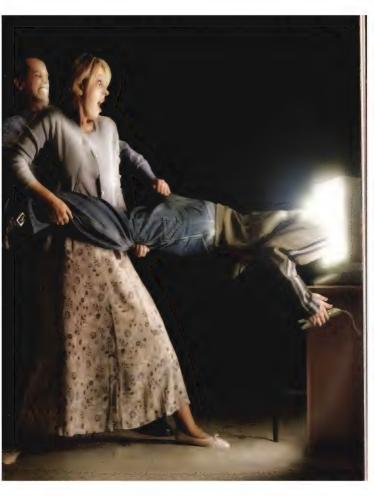
one survey, 9 out of 10 U.S. households with children have rented or owned a video or computer game. And a majority of gamers are adults like me. What are we playing? A lot of gory stuff, apparently. Nearly a third of the Top 100 video-console games for the first quarter of 1999 had at least some sort of violent content. And among video and computer games, bloody titles ilke Quake and ColdenEye 007

rank consistently among the most popular.

Until recently, I didn't think violence in e-games was a problem. In fact, I've always suspected that at some level, playing video and computer games can make

you smarter. A lot of these games, after all, are as complex as they are treacherous. You have to learn how to solve problems fast, testing hypotheses and decoding at UCLA, has studied the relationship between video games and intelligence and finds a positive correlation. Here search attributes an increase in worldwide "nonverbal IQC 'gsatial skills, the use of icons for problem solving and the ability to understand things from multiple viewpoints) to the spread of video games.

I was thrilled to hear my prejudice confirmed—until Greenfield noted that this rise in IQ comes at the ex-

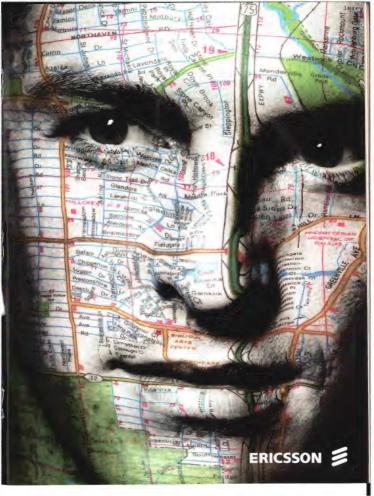




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Actual Size.



pense of potentially more important social skills. Which is to say that kids typically don't interact that well when they spend hours sitting in front of the computer or console. "It's unfortunate that in our society we are more concerned with raising IO than with people having a social intelligence and responsibility," she said.

My own empirical research shows this to be untrue. I've got three daughters, none yet 11 years old, who are hypersocial despite growing up amid all manner of video and computer gaming gear. We have a Sony PlayStation, a Nintendo 64, a couple of Game Boys and enough desktops and laptops to outfit a small CompUSA outlet. My girls can play as much as they want, and I've noticed nothing aberrant in their behavior

After April 20, though, I began to have some doubts-as I'm sure most parents did. Should we worry about our kids' exposure to video games? The question isn't whether games make children kill, because it isn't that simple. The concerns are subtler vet no less worrisome. Do graphically violent games desensitize children to violence? Do such games teach kids to take pleasure in the suffering and death of others? Are even nonviolent e-games addictive? Do they gobble up time better spent on homework, sports and other outdoor play? Or is most gaming time taken away from time in front of the TV, which, because kids sit passively before it, may be worse for them? What, if anything, should we do as a society? Should we ban the sale of violent video games to minors?

Almost every parent I know is asking these questions-and reaching very different conclusions. It seems to me that the two poles of the debate are held down by Doug Lowenstein, president of the Interactive Digital Software Association, and David Grossman, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and former professor of psychology at West Point.

Arkansas State University in Ionesboro (yes, that Jonesboro) and a student of all sorts of killing, Grossman has become the point man in the war against violent video games. His main assertion is that violent video games such as Doom or Quake help break down the natural inhibitions we have against killing. In fact, the military has begun using Doom-like games to improve so-called fire rates-encouraging soldiers

to pull the trigger in battle.



Only about one-fifth of U.S. soldiers in combat in World War II fired their weapons, a rate that the military pushed up to 95% by the Vietnam War, in part through the use of simulations meant to make shooting at humans seem more routine and "normal."

Violent video games, Grossman argues, prepare kids to kill and even teach them to enjoy the experience. Of course, "not everybody who plays these games will become a murderer," Grossman says. "Just as not everybody who smokes gets cancer. But they will all get sickened."

Grossman would like to see federal legislation that treats violent video games like guns, tobacco and alcohol-banning their sale to anyone under 18. Politicians in Washington, Arkansas and New York say they're thinking of proposing such laws. Lowenstein, not surprisingly, believes

the video-gaming industry has become a convenient scapegoat for society's ills. "The difference between cigarettes and video games is that video games are constitutionally protected under the First Amendment," he claims. Indeed, video games represent a type of artistic expresing systems. When I was a child, it was pretty hard to sneak into an R-rated movie. But any kid can buy any video game, regardless of the rating it has been given by the industry. Lowenstein says that's the retailers' problem-and the parents'. "The purpose of the rating system is to empower the parents to make an informed choice. If a parent wants to give Junior \$50 and say. 'Buy whatever you want. I don't care,' that's not my responsibility.'

But haven't we been reminded lately that Junior is everyone's responsibility to some extent? As a parent-and a rabid First Amendment advocate-I can't see what harm it would do to make it harder for lunior to get the bloodier stuff. That said, though, Grossman's child-zombie scenario sounds too far-fetched. "We can't make social policy based on the statistical aberrations of a handful of abnormal kids," observes Henry Jenkins, director of comparative media studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Jenkins, who co-edited a book, From Barbie to Mortal Kombat, that examines the way boys and girls react to e-games, says moderately violent video games might even be beneficial, Now an adjunct faculty member at sion, like movies. Yet even movies have rat- helping girls learn how to compete in an

aggressive world. He also points out that if we tried to clamp down on everything that triggered unstable people to kill, "the Bible would be one of the first things we'd want to ban.

Clearly, the responsibility for children starts at home. Two days after the Colorado school killings, the Smith family of Eden Prairie, Minn., discussed the tragedy's fallout over dinner Katie 16. Peter 14. Mike, 12, and Brian, 9, were concerned about the

TIME/CNN TEEN POLL

How many hours do you spend each week playing video games?** 1 to 4 5 to 9 ... 10 or more ... Have you ever felt as if you were addicted to video games?*

Yes, play regularly
Yes, played a few times 50%
No, never played
Do your parents have rules about playing video games, and do you follow them?**
Yes, and always follow 24%
Yes, but don't always follow . 18%

Have you ever played games

like Doom, Quake, Duke Nuke or Redneck Rampage, and If

so, how often?**



IT'S FOR THE PEOPLE

WHO LIVE.

"My husband Ron was everything - president, salesman, manager, buyer, and warehouse worker. The only thing he wasn't. was immortal."

brokerage business. But at age 49, he discovered he had something

Fortunately, he also had foresight be sold if he died, his life insurance provided Mary with the money to tomers still have their fine wines; and Mary is keeping Ron's dream alive.

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newly tightened security at schools. Their mother Beth was worried too-about what the Nintendo console in the basement might be doing to her kids. She decided that there would be no more violent video games in the Smith house. "I told them they could go jump on the trampoline or play the pinball machine or air hockey," she says. "There wasn't much

While this wouldn't be the path I'd take, experts say it's a perfectly reasonable response. Find your own comfort level, and enforce it. Use your eyes and your gut. If you sense something's agitating your kids, intervene. Michael Thompson, a Boston-based clinical psychologist specializing in children and adolescents, asks parents. "Is the violence that a boy is enacting

and video games showing at next week's Electronic Entertainment Expo on Nintendo translating into his daily life? Is he more aggressive when he's playing, or meaner to his brother, or less respectful of his parents? Then you have to put limits on him. But if it isn't affecting his behavior, if it stays in the

realm of fantasy, that's a sign of health." There are no restrictions on the use of video or computer games in the Horan household, in Albuquerque, N.M. Peter, 16, and Frank, 14, spend eight hours a day

on weekends and as many as three hours each weeknight playing e-games. Single dad Tom Horan, an admitted computer illiterate, takes a passive role, hoping his sons will out-

grow their obsession. A lobbyist and lawver. Tom only occasionally wanders in to see what they're up to. "I'd rather have them and their friends playing video games here than be out roaming the streets," he says. Although Peter has spent hours playing Quake, he recently told his dad that he especially enjoyed Grand Theft Auto, a particularly violent video game in which the player gets points by stealing cars and killing police officers. Unaware his son had this game, Tom asked him why he bought it, considering his older half brother is a po-

liceman. "Because it's fun," said Peter. "I



WALLIS LEARNS from son Nat, 12, how to play his favorite game

what happens when you go to the Temple of Time. Check out the graphics when you use the light arrows." The game, as it turned out, was a synthesis of Arthurian legend, Tolkien mythology and Marvel comic books. It was devilishly difficult. Besides mastering arcane weapons (no blood, though), he had to memorize different sequences of tones-magic songs that transported the hero. There were puzzles to solve, strategies to plot.

I now understood the pride my son took in his expertise. He was a Zelda master, respected by his friends. Sure, I'd prefer him to work on his chess game or fastball. But do those games really prepare him for his future better than this one?

As the cloud of my contempt lifted, I could think rationally about setting some limits:

Rule 1 Know what your kid is playing. If possible, rent and test a game before you buy it. We made the mistake of buying Golden Eye 007, not realizing that the whole game is played peering over

a revolver Rule 2 Remember, a new game is like a fever. It must run its course. Allow generous playtime when the

game is new, preferably during a school vacation. Rule 3 Then set strict time

Rule 4 If you can stand it, play the game with your child. Rule 5 Worry if the fever doesn't let go. Then you are dealing with an illness that will obliterate other activities. As for my own child, he's over Zelda and into playing HoverRace on the Internet. And playing a whole lot of soccer.

Wallis is managing editor of TIME FOR KIDS

Learning to Love Zelda

By CLAUDIA WALLIS

YOU DON'T TURN THAT thing off right now, I'm turning it off for you." "Mom! I'm about to beat this level. I just need another ... Don't touch that! Mom! Now look what you did. Now I died!"

That was a fairly typical exchange between my 12year-old son Nat and me back in January, at the height of his obsession with the Nintendo 64 game Legend of Zelda. We followed that script most nights. And it typically ended in his death-or rather that of his sword-wielding surrogate, the great man-boy hero Link

We were getting nowhere. My son's game habit was resisting all the negative reinforcement I could dish out. In fact, the habit was awesome to behold. Nat would arrive home from school and be drawn, as if by some tractor beam, straight to the den. When his friends were present, there was a nearly indecipherable babble: "Hit Bongo Bongo with the ice arrows." "Switch to the Biggoron sword." "Use the Lens of Truth."

The number

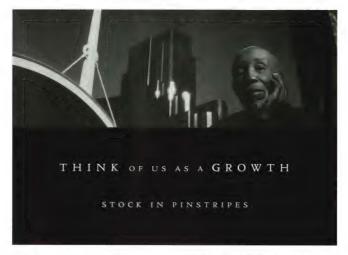
of new computer

2,600

I'd seen some of this behavior before, first with Mario, then Donkey Kong and Banjo-Kazooie. But the games, it seemed, were becoming more hypnotic, more of a nonnutritious substitute for real

life. Frankly, it scared me. What scared me more, though, was listening to myself grow hysterical. I was convinced that most video and computer games were a waste. And besides, why wasn't he reading? As I grew more shrill, my son grew more sullen. I was rejecting something he loved. And he recognized my prejudice as uninformed. I was also violating a basic rule of parenting: take an interest in what your kid is doing-especially when his tastes diverge from yours. Every parent in America got a refresher course on that rule April 20.

O.K., I said one day, show me Zelda. Nat grinned. And like a giddy tour guide, he showed me Princess Zelda's kingdom. "You gotta see this. Look



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know cops aren't bad. It doesn't make me want to go out and steal cars. Video games don't influence me." Tom says that had he known, he would have forbidden the purchase. But he hasn't taken the

33.000

game away.

As violent video games have evolved, the targets have gone from monsters to people. In the racing game Carrnageddon, the player tries to run down pedestrians, including old ladies with walkers. Horrible as this sounds, I suspect that most kids who play the game see it as little more than sick humor.

"When the movie Scream first came out, my daughters really wanted me to see it, and I was just horrified," says Brenda Laurel, who founded a Silcon Valley company that specialized in software for girls. Scream, she says, "was like a Peckinpah movie, only worse, but I noticed halfway through that they were perceiving it as satire." Laurel thinks the same holds true for some of the splatter games that terrify parents the trifty parents that the same holds true for some of the splatter games that terrify parents.

Rick and Cynthia Livingston of La Crescenta, Calif., have tried to assert influence over their son's gaming by embracing it. About four years ago, they bought a Super Nintendo Entertainment System. Their son Taylor, then 6, had already become a whiz by playing games at his friends' homes. "But we discovered a lot of neighbor kids had no limits, so we decided to buy a system for our home so we could watch him," explains Rick, an actor. "He'd play all day if he could," adds Cynthia, an elementary school principal. The Livingstons gradually limited Taylor's gaming time to one hour a day, explained the rating system to him and allowed him to pick appropriate games. "Believe me, if Taylor can, he will play violent games," said Cynthia. "I don't want him playing them regularly, but will an hour twice a year hurt him? No. In general, I think Taylor has good judgment. He's had training

Maryanne Culpepper of Fairfax, Va., a programming executive at National Geographic Television, is by no means a rigid mother. Her son Jonathan, IT, has seen the violent movie The Matrix four times in the month that it has been out. Yet she is cautious about the digital world, calling it says, "It's nots on much the Internet or the games but which Internet site and which games."

Last fall Jonathan would sometimes stay up all night playing sports games on his video deck. When his grades slipped, his parents cut off access, then limited use to the post-homework hours. Jonathan realized that his gaming was getting out of hand when "a friend called to ask me to go to a movie and I said, 'No, I've got other plans,' just because I wanted to stay home and

play video games."
So is this stuff addictive? Psychologists say some players of intense

video games show symptoms similar to those induced by drug taking or other pleasurable activities. Participating in the action of a game—pushing buttons to score, shoot, bomb, fight or fly—entals neuro-muscular coordination. "So the brain not only is seeing the images and getting stimulated, but it's also practicing a response," says Carolic Lieberman, a psychaitrist at UCLA. "When the person is exposed to these violent media stimuli and it eacites the psychoneurological receptors, it causes the person to feel this excitement, to feel a kind of high—and then to become additiced to whatever was giving him the high."

This is no secret game developers. Though none of the game companies TIME contacted was willing to openly discuss violence in e-games, one game developer agreed to talk on the condition that he not be named. "A video game is all about adrenaline, and the easiest way to trigger adrenaline is to make someone think they're going to die," he explained. One of the tricks of the trade is to

concentrate on the "blink rate." It's an old Madison Avenue ad-agency gimmick, he said. "People stop blinking if an ad has their attention. Same here—if-you're into a game, your pupils dilate and your blink rate slows down." The body and brain become fully involved—so much so that dopamine, a neuro-transmitter that some believe is the master molecule of addiction, gets produced while you're playing.

I've played lots of video games, at times obsessively. Invariable, though, the obsession gives way to boredom. Even the best games run their course. As a gamer, I always find it sort of sad when a favorite title just doesn't evoke that old spark anymore. But as parents, we may find that this is the best thing we have working for us.

Maryanne Murray Buechner and Jay Ehrlich/ New York, Wendy Cole/Chicago, John F. Dickerson/ Washington, Nancy Harbert/Albuquerque, Michael Krantz/San Francisco and Jacqueline Savalano/ Los Angeles

I Beg to Differ

By MICHELLE SLATALLA

HIREE WAS A TIME WHEN MY husband and I would furiously click away for hours on end, barely speaking, as we played a video game called Bust-n-Move 2. Irealized we had a problem when the game took over my dreams. All night my unconscious self would arrange rows of colored bubbles, then pop them. I awoke exhausted, by husband (Josh Quittner, writer of the article preceding this one) confessed that he heard the game's treacly theme song whenever our dishwasher hit the rinse cycle.

After that addictive, mind-

altering experience, I'm surprised to find Josh doubting that violent video games can have ill effects on children. While our daughters have so far shown little interest in the muscle-bound assassins that populate their dad's beloved Tekken 2 disc. several neighborhood boys play at our house and sit mesmerized by the game, kickboxing their way across the screen. Then they go outside to practice head slams.

Most of us can recall being so immersed in a fantasy world that it changed the way we behaved. At age II. I developed a case of phantom scarle fewer after reading about Beth's brave death in Little Women. As for TV, I can't watch the local news in New York City without becoming convinced construction debris. Crapy Maybe. But you won't see me walking under escaffolding in Manhattan.

So has a steady diet of violent video games made Josh behave badly? No. But he's much sweeter than the average boy. That's why I married him. All the same, I'm glad that Quake and Carmaged-don weren't around when he was the age of my daughters' little friends.

Slatalla is a freelance tech writer

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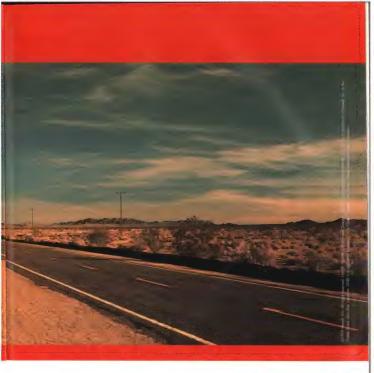
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APPEALING TO HIGHER POWER: Milosevic, second from left, and Jackson form a prayer circle

MISSION Improbable

Even as NATO steps up its air war and Moscow presses its diplomacy, Jesse Jackson's trip to Belgrade produces a dramatic announcement. Will it help or undermine the allied campaign?

By HOWARD CHUA-EOAN

ELGRADE IS NOT A NICE PLACE to visit. Not now. Even when the skies are clear, the city wakes to a deep haze. Last week, the most ferocious in five weeks of allied attacks, the smoke issued from a bombedout police station, from army headquarters and from the interior ministry. A television tower outside of town was toppled. Underground pipes were destroyed, leaving parts of the Serbian capital without water. Residents cower through the night, unable to sleep where errant missiles slam into homes and not-so-errant ones hit residential neighborhoods surrounding official targets. No visitor can ignore the damage—or avoid hearing the explosions and the alarms. On the second day of his visit, the Rev. Jesse Jackson quickly

observed that the bombing was "intense. lackson, however, was once again in the wrong place at the right time. In 1983 he went to Damascus to win the release of Navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman, whose plane had been shot down by Syrian gunners as he flew over war-torn Lebanon. In 1990 Jackson helped bring home hundreds of people held hostage in Iraq. Each of those times Washington had told him to butt out; it told him the same thing last week as he prepared to negotiate the release of three U.S. soldiers held captive by the Serbs for more than a month. But after much public prayer, a meeting with the prisoners and some very loud "Nos" from no less than Slobodan Milo-

sevic, Jackson brought a dramatic turn to a war that seemed entirely given over to the terrifying monotony of missiles and bombs. On Saturday, Belgrade announced it had decided to release the Pows. In exchange for what? Give them, implored Jackson, "a night of peace from bombs."

handle peaked the course of the course of the course of the course. The released soldiers were expected to head for Germany not only for medical retarnent and a reunion with heartsick families but also for a meeting with heartsick families but also for a meeting with black that the course of the



"This really is a sideshow," a U.S. Army colonel insisted. "We need to keep our eves on the ball." Which is to say the air war. But U.S. officials are concerned that Milosevic's decision to release the prisoners is, in effect, an appeal over the heads of military and political leaders directly to the citizenry of the NATO nations. Can a man capable of such a humanitarian act really be a latter-day Hitler, as the alliance insists? And what of the letter that lackson will be carrving from Milosevic to Clinton? Its contents may yet complicate an already cloudy diplomatic swirl. Once again, Pentagon officers said, Milosevic has trumped NATO and wrested the initiative away from the alliance just as the weather is clearing and bombing sorties are reaching a campaign high of some 300 a day. They doubt the re-

lease would temper the campaign, but one official stressed that such decisions "are far above my pay grade."

Indeed, despite Jackson's mission and quieter diplomatic peace overtures by the Russians, there was no letup in NATO's air war. Last week the Pentagon announced that 10 additional B-52 heavy bombers would join the campaign. The additional bombers will add 500-lb. iron bombs for attacks on troop concentrations, as well as precision-guided, Israeli-made missiles with 1,000-lb, warheads. The weekend toll was costly on both sides: 60 people on a bus may have died when a bridge was struck; and a U.S. F-16 was downed (the pilot was rescued). Meanwhile, about 12 hours before word of the release reached Washington, Clinton imposed a U.S. trade embargo on the Yugoslav republic of Serbia, intent on choking off the supply of oil to Milosevic's military. The European Union's ban on oil shipments to Yugoslavia went into effect on Saturday. As for Belgrade's decision on the prisoners, White House spokesman David Leavy said, "This does spokesman David Leavy said, "This does spokesman David Leavy said, "This does in out affect the air campaign" and should do nothing to change the world's opinion of Milosevic, who, according to reports last week from refugees, has only increased the level of brutality in his ethnic cleansing of Kosowo, (Milosevic last week blamed paramillars forces for the "bad things.")

On Friday, Washington had summarily dismissed a Milosevic feeler. In an interview with United Press International, the Yugoslav President, while insisting he would "never surrender" to allied demands for a NATO-led peacekeeping force in Kosovo, set forth terms for ending the conflict, including his willingness to accept lightly armed U.N. monitors. But he would not abide a military peacekeeping force made up of his country's attackers, even if holding out means more air strikes. "One day [of bombingl is too much," Milosevic said. "But what choice do we have if NATO insists on occupying Yugoslavia? To that we will never surrender ... We Serbs are as one on this life-and-death issue of national honor and sovereignty."

The issues of sovereignty and national honor took up much of the Saturday morning negotiations between Milosevic and Jackson's four-member delegation.

"He began with the historic picture," says the Rev. Joan Brown Campbell, the coleader of the Jackson group, of Milosevic's sermon on Serbian history. "That took a while." Jackson, she told TIME, responded with an equally lengthy exposition on the private, humanitarian nature of the trip and on the value of trying to break a stalemate between the West and Yugoslavia. Says Campbell: "The sticking point was always who goes first. We went back and 1998, has little international experience,

forth on it." She adds. "We kept telling him, 'Make a gesture, make a gesture, and we'll see what happens. We can't guarantee anything, but maybe, just maybe something will happen." They also appealed to Milosevic's media savvy: a prisoner release, they said, would be a smart move, "since you're very deeply concerned about your image." Jackson reiterated NATO conditions for peace, and Milosevic argued the terms of those demands, pointing out the difference between an international "presence" and an international "force." Af-

ter three hours, Jackson and Milosevic | someone from Moscow. Now all Chernotalked one-on-one for 20 minutes. Says Campbell: "Those were very valuable 20 minutes."

Jackson had only been back in his room at the Belgrade Hvatt for 15 minutes when the delegation received a call asking the members to go to Yugoslav Foreign Minister Zivadin Iovanovic's private residence. When they sat down, he produced a sheet of paper and said. "I'm pleased to tell you that President Milosevic has issued a de-



INTENSIFIED AIR WAR: Novi Sad, 50 miles from Belgrade, aglow under a burning refinery last Friday

cree today releasing the three soldiers." If Jackson was an unlikely American envoy, Viktor Chernomyrdin is virtually his Russian equivalent. Except that Chernomyrdin is official-Moscow's special envoy for the Balkans. The most generous thing one can say about his appointment is that it is counterintuitive. Chernomyrdin, who was Boris Yeltsin's pedestrian and obedient Prime Minister from 1992 to

> except for frequent chats with Al Gore. His background is in oil and gas.

But last week Chernomyrdin stepped to center stage in Operation Allied Force. It is a strange place for a Russian: Moscow has complained vigorously about the allied air war on Serbia. But NATO's leaders believe they need the Russians. When Milosevic gives up, the thinking goes, he'll have to do it to someone. And of all the options-including Greek Prime Minister Costas Simitis and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan-Milosevic would probably prefer to surrender to

myrdin needs is an agreement.

COUNTERINTUITIVE: Russia's

special envoy to the Balkans, Viktor Chernomyrdin

The first issue Chernomyrdin will try to tackle is just what kind of force might one day occupy Kosovo. Russia understands that that force will need to be armed-something Milosevic has yet to accept-but a tussle is expected over who will actually go in to secure the province, as the Yugoslav President has made clear. Moscow hopes U.N. peacekeepers could do the job. At the moment, Washington is willing to have a U.N. "umbrella" over the peacekeeping force, with the understanding that NATO officers would be giving the

However, Chernomyrdin's record on this kind of nuance is, so far, not reassuring. After his first meeting with Milosevic on April 22, Chernomyrdin announced to the press that the Yugoslav President had agreed to "big compromises." But that turned out to be no breakthrough at all, and Belgrade had to scramble to explain the snafu. Since the U.S. considers Chernomyrdin a serious diplomat, last week it sent Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott to meet with the former Premier and make sure he knew exactly what the U.S. and NATO expect. Talbott made some headway. Said a senior American diplomat: "We've begun to bring them around to a more balanced view of the situation and what it's going to take to resolve it."

The troubles in the Balkans hold promise for both Chernomyrdin and Jackson. For Chernomyrdin, who has already declared his interest in running for President in 2000, a Balkan peace agreement would be a godsend-a return to the limelight after a year and a half of obscurity. For Jesse Jackson, if the return of the three U.S. prisoners proves uncomplicated, last week's rescue mission could revivify a political presence that has faded into the background in recent years-just as the Goodman rescue briefly made Jackson a plausible presidential candidate in 1984. In the end, however, a solution to the crisis in Kosovo does not lie in the skills or the luck of either the Russian or the American. If the war is in any one man's hands, that man is Slobodan Milosevic.

Massimo Calabresi/Vienna, Paul Quinn-Judge/ Moscow and Mark Thompson, Karen Tumulty and Douglas Waller/Washington

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IS IT TIME **TO PANIC?**

Explosive allegations of Chinese espionage raise new fears about U.S. nuclear security

By ROMESH RATNESAR

SPIONAGE, MOVIES HAVE TAUGHT US, is supposed to be sexy stuff. The rakish secret agent. A blond chanteuse. Cameras masquerading as bow ties. By those standards, the alleged perfidy pulled off by Wen Ho Lee was decidedly G-rated. FBI agents suspect that for more than a decade, while working as a research scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, Lee was surreptitiously downloading millions of lines of classified code from the lab's top-secret computer database and storing the codes on the hard drive of his personal office computer. The actual transfer between systems was pretty easy, requiring little more than the kind of drag-and-click computer moves that millions of deskbound Americans perform every day. It wasn't

MARKED MAN

NAME Wen Ho Lee

BORN 1939

BACKGROUND

Earned engineering

A&M in 1970; employed at

SUSPICION Investigators say

Lee transferred U.S. nuclear

secrets onto his unsecured

Los Alamos since 1978

Ph.D. from Texas

personal computer



exactly grist for a white-knuckle thriller. But Lee was playing with blockbuster material. Known as "legacy codes," the 100 or so calculations that he put on his hard drive contained a gold mine of nuclear secrets-reams of physics equations and weapon-test results and warhead designspainstakingly amassed by the U.S. since the government began building atom bombs at Los Alamos a half-century ago. When Energy Department officials discovered in March that a mid-level scientist had copied programs from the prized database, they were chagrined. That the scientist was the Taiwanese-born Lee, the same one fired on March 8 amid fears that he might already have passed weapons secrets to the Chinese government, was doubly embarrassing. But the realization that the codes stored on Lee's computer could have found their way into scores of foreign

hands, including those of the Chinese government, left U.S. officials dumbstruck. "Holy s__," was what Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said when his counterintelligence chief told him of the data transfers in late March.

Republicans were using language even less polite last week when news of the possible heist landed in Washington. Congressional leaders were already furning about disclosures. first made in the March 6 edition of the New York Firms. that since 1996 the FBI had been trying to determine whether Lee had given Beijing classified information about the design of America's most advanced nuclear warhead, the

W-88, and that in spite of this possibility, Lee had remained at Los Alamos until he was fired on March 8. The Administration tried to sidestep criticism by insisting that any spying that had taken place had happened during Republican administrations. But that defense may not cut it this time around. Investigators suspect that Lee, 59, downloaded the bulk of the secret

codes in 1994 and 1995. He was allowed to retain his high-level security clearance at the lab until late 1998, even while he was under PRI SUPPLIANCE TO THE AREA TO THE AREA Agents say they asked the lab to let Lee keep his job so he wouldn't get wise to their probe. Still, it was not until after Lee's dismissal from Los Alanos that anyone managed to check what was on his computer. As more details have emerged, it has sometimes seemed that the only thing more breathaking than Lee's alleged deceit was how long the government took to ferreit tout.

The Clinton Administration last week scrambled to contain the damage. Richardson admitted a colossal security breach but said there was no evidence that the Chinese or anyone else had actually obtained the nuclear data from Lee. (Through his lawyer, Lee has denied any wrongdoing.) On Thursday FBI chief Louis Freeh gave similar assurances in a private briefing for the Senate Intelligence Committee. But the Senators came out of the three-hour meeting irate. The most overheated Republicans compared Lee to Klaus Fuchs. the Los Alamos scientist who passed atomic secrets to the Soviets in the 1940s. Even Democrats raged, "It's not even a close call," said Nebraska Democrat Bob Kerrey. "This is an extremely serious nationalsecurity issue that was not given a sufficient amount of attention."

As agents combed computer records at Los Alamos, intelligence officials admitted that it might be impossible ever to determine whether Lee had passed the codes on to any foreign governments. Clearly, someone had checked into Lee's machine and accessed them. But, explained an intelligence official, "it's not like going to a simple billing record. The material was accessed, but they don't know by whom. By him? By someone else? They don't know."

And what if the codes had slipped out? The fallout could put a sizable dent in the

U.S.'s nuclear hegemony. The legacy

codes are sets
of equations that
approximate
how nuclear explosions work;
they are modified
as weapons tests
are conducted to
assess the potency
of new designs. Conpling the codes with
actual engineering
specifications for warheads—like the W-58
designs China has al-

designs China has already stolen—would give a foreign government a road map for replicating the American nuclear arsenal.

No Chinese general would rely on the validity of stolen designs alone to build and deploy new nuclear weapons. Instead the time-honed technical expertise found in the U.S. codes could allow savvy foreign scientists to measure the punch packed by weapons they already possess without actually testing them. It's a doozy for the Chinese, who may have pocketed U.S. secrets just before they signed the nuclear test-ban treaty in 1996. And then there are the nuclear wannabes from Pyongyang to Tripoli. to whom the Chinese might sell the codes. Warns Gary Milhollin of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, based in Washington: "This could facilitate nuclearweapons development by China, or anybody else, without our knowing about it."

There remain mysteries surrounding Lee. The engineer first came to the Fif's attention in 1982, when an FBI wiretap picked up a phone conversation between Lee and another Taiwanese-born scientist who was under investigation for passing U.S. neutron-bomb secrets to the Chinese. The FBI then administered a polygraph test on Lee. He passed with flying colors. In the mid-80s, he and his wife again appeared on the FBI's radar screen, when they approached the Albuquerque field of

SUSPECT BEHAVIOR

A chronology of how agents tracked a possible spy



Dec. 4, 1978 Wen Ho Lee joins Los Alamos Na tional Laboratory.

1982 The FBI intercepts a telephone call placed by Lee to another nuclear scientist, also born in Taiwan, who has been accused of giving China classified data on the neutron bomb.

1983-95 Lee transfers parts of the legacy codes—the mathematical blueprints used to design and test U.S. nuclear warheads—from the lab's classified computer system to his unsecured office computer.

June 3-7, 1986 Lee delivers an unclassified paper on nuclear weapons-related science at a symposium in Beijing with approval from Los Alamos officials.

1988 Lee delivers another unclassified paper in Beljing with Los Alamos approval.



1995 U.S. intelligence officials obtain a Chinese government document showing that China has stolen the design for the W-88 nuclear warhead, designed for Trident submarine missiles, above.

1996 The FBI launches an investigation of the W-88 thoft. Agents focus on Lee and propose a covert search of his computer. But FB

theft. Agents focus on Lee and propose a covert search of his computer. But FBI headquarters and Justice officials say that the search requires a warrant.

July 1997 Department of Justice rejects the FBI warrant request, saying agents lack evidence that Lee is involved in espionage.

April 1997 Lee is transferred to a new job at Los Alamos National Lab.

March 5, 1999 The FBI confronts Lee, who had earlier failed a polygraph. He denies any wrongdoing but gives authorities permission to search files on his computer.

March 8 Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson, below, fires Lee from his Los Alamos job for failing to report contact with Chinese scientists and other security breaches. March 28 Richardson learns agents found legacy code on Lee's computer. He briefs Clinton the next day.

April 2 Richardson orders the computer systems at three nuclear labs shut down for two weeks of investigation.



April 10 Investigation of Lee intensifies. FBI agents search Lee's home, above. Still lacking evidence of espionage, agents occus on making a criminal case against Lee for mishandling of classified data.

fice and volunteered to inform on visiting delegations from the People's Republic and on Chinese scientists in the U.S. The part dropped the Lees from its rolls in 1991. But in 1995 the cra obtained a Chinese document showing that Beiling had classified details on the W-88. In response, the rain in mid-1996 opened a criminal investigation at Los Alamos under the code name Kindred Spirit. In part because of the 1989 plone call, Lee was its principal target.

Fas field agents in Albuquerque zeroed in on Lee's office computer and proposed a covert search of his hard drive. But because of laws against searches and seizures in the workplace, government officials can't rille employees computers or desks unless the workpace has been specifically marked with banners warning of possible searches. The computers warning of possible searches, the computers warning the proposed of the propose

other agents were growing increasingly frustrated by stonewalling lab managers at Los Alamos. The Energy Department contacts out day-to-day operation of the country's nuclear labs to the University of California and Lockheed Martin Corp. "Security is something they don't even think about," says a retired rat agent. To break the logiam, agents arranged for Freeh and cta director George Tenet to receive a stunning briefing in 1997 on security lapses and suspicions of Chinese snooping at Los Alamos. The directors then told Energy Secretary Federico Peña

that security was in need of an overhaul. The two also convened a committee of U.S. counterspies, which informed the National Security Council in mid-1997 that the labs needed tighter security and stricter vetting of foreign visitors. Clinton signed off on the proposal in February 1998.

By then the investigation of Lee had devolved into a bureaucratic Byzantium. The Albuquerque agents filed their warrant request with the Justice Department in July 1987. Officials there concluded that the rail did not have sufficient proof that Lee posed a national-security threat grave enough to merit a raid on his computer. Exasperated Fai authorities appealed to Attorney General Janet Reno, but she wouldn't budge. Attempts to get more goods on Lee turned up nothing. Says a veteran counterespionage investigator of china's spy network: They're everywhere,

but it's hard to catch them doing anything. Lee's undoing came about not from conclusive evidence of his spying but from disclosure of the case late last year to Representative Christopher Cox's committee investigating allegations of Chinese spying. The committee informed the Administration that it would reveal China's alleged W-88 theft in its report. That put the pressure on Richardson. In February he ordered a polygraph of Lee, who failed it. On March 5, FBI agents confronted Lee and extracted permission to search his computer. Three days later, Richardson fired Lee and assured everyone the worst was over. It was not. On March 28, he got the mind-blowing news: not only had Lee downloaded the legacy codes onto his unclassified computer, but he also later tried to delete them from his hard drive. And someone using Lee's password had already accessed the codes. Richardson briefed Clinton the next day, got approval to shut down the nuclear labs for two weeks and vowed to can staff members who had impeded the investigation.

But nothing the Administration does now is likely to repair damage already done. Why didn't the Fit and DOE monitor computer activity at Los Alamos more closely? Why did the Justice Department turn down the Fit's appeal for help? Freeh and former Energy Secretaries Pefia and Hazel O'Leary are certain to be targets of

the Cox panel's probe. No matter what became of the legacy codes, the Clinton Administration stands to pay a heavy price. Republicans are lining up to hammer the White House for the mess. And since Clinton and Vice President Gore have pushed for closer U.S.-China ties, they are also likely to face charges of elevating politics and commercial interests over national security. After White House stonewalling on two other China-related investigations (the fund raising and the technology transfers), Republicans will assume the worst about the Lee case. Says Republican Senator Richard Lugar: "This kind of thing is grist for the mill for endless investigations." With an election year coming up. Wen Ho Lee may prove to be the most dangerous man for Democrats on the campaign trail. -Reported by James Carney, Elaine Shannon, Mark Thompson, Karen Tumulty and Douglas Waller/Washington

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imageRUNNER 600. Then, look out. HERE'S THE FUTURE. LET'S GET TO WORK.



Canon

VIAGRA FOR THE THIGHS?

32 33 34 35 36 37 3

A diet drug called orlistat could take off like last year's big seller—but oh, those funky side effects

By MICHAEL D. LEMONICK

O MATTER WHAT SHE DID. CINDY
Smith just couldn't shed the 60
lbs. she'd gained during her
pregnancy nine years ago. She
went through over-the-counter
weight-loss pills, liguid diets,
starvation diets-always with the same result. "I would try it for about a week," says
Smith, 35, a customer-service manager at
A Houston bank. "I'd lose maybe 5 to 10
lbs., then get discouraged and end up
dropping it."

A friend told her about an experimental diet drug being tested at nearby Baylor University, and Smith signed up. For two years, she and thousands of other overweight patients maintained a low-fat diet, exercised—and swallowed a medication called orlistat three times a day. "My clothes started fitting a lot looser after a

month," she says. Today Smith is down to 150 lbs., her prepregnancy weight. Not only that, but she's maintaining the loss and hopes to drop even more.

Now millions of Americans will be getting the chance to see if orlistat works for them as well. The FDA ruled last week that the drug, made by Hoffman-LaRoche, can go on sale in the U.S. The dark blue capsules, under the trade name Xenical, could be available by prescription as early as this week.

Officially, or listat is supposed to be taken only by the obese—those whose weight is at least 30% higher than it should be (27% for those with high blood pressure, high cholesterol or . diabetes). But this is just a guideline: once a drug has been approved, doctors can prescribe it any way they want. And given Americans' obsession with getting slim, the demand could be enormous. "The reality." says Dr. Steven Heymsfield, deputy director of the Obesity Research Center at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital in New York City, "is that millions of people who have tried everything else and are frustrated with their weight will walk into their physician's office and say, 'I want Xenical.

In short, the FDA has unofficially launched agigantic, uncontrolled experiment on the U.S. population, much as it did with the diet drug Redux in 1996 and the impotence pill Viagra in 1998. The Redux fad ended abruptly a year later when some users developed serious heart-valve defects—and major side effects are always a possibility with Xentica are always a possibility with Xentica are always up to the properties of the Power of t

tries where the medication is already available. (An initial suspicion that users had a higher incidence of breast cancer proved unfounded.)

One reason may be that hardly any of the drug is absorbed into the body. Unlike all previous diet drugs, orilistat doesn't reduce appetite. Instead, it interferes with an intestinal enzyme that breaks down dietary fat into an absorbable form. In essence, orlistat turns normal fat into something akin to Olestra, the fat-free fat

How it works Orlistat blocks an enzyme that breaks down fat in the intestines, preventing about 1/3 of it from being



Orlistat (Xenical) Q & A

/ho should take it?

Anyone whose weight is 30% or more above normal (27% for those suffering from high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes). It's not recommended for those who want to lose 5 lbs.

How well does it work?

Without changes in diet and a commitment to regular exercise, not all that well. Orlistat is best suited for kick-starting a new life-style.

What are the side effects?

Users can experience flatulence, diarrhea, oily stools and a condition delicately known as "anal leakage." They may also suffer deficiencies in vitamins A, D, E and K.

How much does it cost?

One capsule costs \$1.10; the standard regimen of three a day adds up to about \$1,200 per year.

Procter & Gamble has been using in snack GENETICS foods since 1996

As a result, about a third of the fat that would ordinarily be taken into the body is flushed right through the digestive system. Unfortunately, so are vitamins A, D, E and K, which bind to fat molecules. To make sure that patients don't develop vitamin deficiencies, the FDA requires that the Xenical label recommend that users take a multivitamin two hours before or after taking the drug

The good news is that orlistat is flushed out of the body too: less than 1% of the drug remains in the system. Perhaps as a consequence, the only documented side effects-caused by excess fat coursing through the colon-are flatulence, greasy stools and, in a few cases, oily anal leakage,

That's one reason orlistat users are supposed to change their eating habits. If someone takes it without also switching to a low-fat diet, says Dr. Michael Hamilton, director of Duke University's Diet and Fitness Center, "that person is going to have a rude awakening."

Beyond that, orlistat isn't dramatically effective by itself. All the patients in the double-blind study went on strict eating regimens and exercise programs. Half of them were given orlistat, and half got an inert placebo. While those in the orlistat group lost an average of 10% of their initial weight after six months, the folks on the sugar pills lost nearly as much-a not inconsiderable 5%

That's not enough of a difference to justify putting orlistat on the market, says Dr. Jules Hirsch, an obesity expert at Rockefeller University and a member of the FDA advisory panel that evaluated the drug. Hirsch voted against approval. "We're talking about something that will take a little bit of weight off-a little more than a placebofor a few years," he says, "but that will not make obesity-vanish. The question is, How valuable is that?

By itself, not all that valuable, Ideally, says St. Luke's Heymsfield, doctors should first urge obese patients to change their diet and start exercising regularly. If they still can't lose weight, he would add orlistat to the mix. Another possibility, suggests Duke's Hamilton, is to use orlistat with an appetite suppressant. The value of this new drug, says Heymsfield, is that it adds to the available anti-obesity therapies and lets doctors tailor the treatment to a patient's needs. "I don't see Xenical as something to displace one or another of the currently available drugs, he says. "It's not a magic bullet. But having one more bullet, so to speak, is very helpful. -Reported by

Alice Park/New York

Getting a Leg Up on the Birds

to chicken legs, here's good news or you. Thanks to some clever genetic engineering, scientists at the Salk Institute in La Jolla, Calif., have come up with a way to grow birds with an extra pair of legs. The work, described in last week's

ture, centers on so-called T-box

genes. Common to all vertebrates, including humans, they're important in the development of limbs in the embryo-determining, for example, whether they become hindor forelimbs (or in chickens, legs or wings). But, says geneticist Juan Carlos Belmonte, the study's senior scientist, "we didn't know if

self was sufficient to send a limb down one pathway or the other

To unravel the puzzle, the scientists infected the unformed wing region of day-old chicken embryos with a virus ca rying a T-box gene known as Tbx-4. A day later, they transferred the tissue to other embryos still in their shells. The trans planted cells quickly grew into recognizable legs. By contrast, when the scientists transferred wing tissue without first infecting it with Tbx-4 genes, the tissue always grew into wings. That shows that Tbx-4 contains a full genetic blueprint for a leg, says Belmont The scientists hope to learn how

T-box genes turn on and off. That could give them clues to human birth disorders like Holt-Oram syndrome, which is

characterized by stunted arms and hands and is linked to these genes. As for the chicks, the scientists didn't let them hatch, resisting the temptation to grow drumsticks for

KFC. -By Frederic Golden

REPRODUCTION

one of these genes by it-

Cloning Around With Mom's Milk

ng farm animals from embryos is pretty easy; cattle breeders have been doing it for years. Cloning from full-grown mammals is more difficult, but in the two years since Dolly showed that it was possible, scientists have managed to clos other sheep, mice and even cows, starting with a variety of adult donor tissue Last week Japanese scientists unveiled what may be the most painless way yet to clone a cow: they produced two healthy Noistein calves from their mother's mill

The cows were cloned using residua mammary cells found in the vellowish foremilk, or colostrum, produced when a cow gives birth. Scientists from Tokyobased Snow Brand Milk Products gathered up some of these cells and gave them the Dolly-the-sheep treatment: transplanting their DNA into hollowedout eggs and inserting the resulting embryos into the wombs of surrogate cows. Mammary cells were also used to produce Dolly, but they were scraped from

the udder of an adult sheep. The Japanese scientists believe their kinder, ge tier technique will make it easier to clone high-milk-yielding "supercows" by re-ducing the risk of bacterial infection in valuable parent animals

The Japanese still have to win over a skeptical public, which was surprised to learn this month that at least 66 head of conventionally cloned cattle had been quietly butchered and marketed without any government announcement. To allay fears about the meat's safety, Agriculture Minister Shoichi Nakagawa ate cloned beef on TV while aides noted that it was genetically unaltered andgibe at U.S. growers-untreated with _FG



The Man with the Qi

His spiritual movement has galvanized millions in China. But Li Hongzhi has more on his mind

By DAVID VAN BIEMA

HE TALL MAN WITH FLASHING BROWN eyes sat in a Manhattan apartment and chatted about wheels and extraterrestrials. As an associate translated, Li Hongzhi, 48, discoursed with TIME's William Dowell on the manipulation, for physical and spiritual betterment, of circles of internal energy called qi. Suddenly, however, conversation veered to a topic Li has thus far broached to none but his inner circle: aliens on earth. "One type of alien looks like a human but has a nose made of a bone," he confided; others resemble ghosts. The extraterrestrials, who arrived circa 1900, have not been idle. "Everyone thinks that scientists invent on their own," said Li, "when in fact their inspiration is manipulated by the aliens." The aliens intend to replace all humans with clones, he added

"In terms of culture and

spirit, they already con-

There are plen-

ty of New Yorkers

with equally un-

usual theories.

But Li is the

only one with

millions of follow-

nese leadership.

ers, thousands of

whom took to the

Beijing streets a week

ago, sending a shudder

through a shocked Chi-

For 12 hours, more

than 10,000 devotees planted

themselves eight-deep on the

sidewalk surrounding the na-

tion's Zhongnanhai govern-

ment compound, demanding

that their Falun Gong sect, led

by Li, receive status as a per-

mitted group. The silent sit-in

was by far the boldest protest

in Beijing since the butchering

of the pro-democracy move-

ment almost exactly

a decade ago.

And the re-

gime's re-

trol men.

as stunning. Rather than attack, it granted leaders an audience with Premier Zhu Rongji.

The protest introduced the world to a mystical movement little known outside Asia. China, once devoted to Confucianism and then to Maoism, is experiencing a vacuum of faith and values. The creed

IN THE STREETS: The lines of protesters extended more than a mile in Beijing

most successful in filling it since "freedom of religion" was announced in 1979 has been Buddhism. But others, from illegal Christian "house churches" to witchery, have also flourished. Falun Gong is a variant of Qi Gong, a blend of mind and body work (it also includes Tai Chi) that strives to harmess an energy called qi. Qi

to harness an energy called di. Of Gong does not always rise to the intensity of faith, but charismatic "grand masters" have built up formidable followings on its

principles.

Most formidable is Li's. In an interview weeks before the Beijing demonstration, he explained to TIME that he began

demonstration, he exdeformation of the began
studying Qi Gong at
age 4 with masters
"in the mountains,"
probably in Manchuria. In 1992 he
went public with
an amalgam of Qi
Gong, Buddhism,
Confucianism and
Taoism aimed at
moral rejuvenation and a spiri-

HIGHER LEVEL: Li blames aliens for many of humanity's problems tual "cultivation," culminating in supernatural powers and "freedom from the worldly state." (Asked if he is a human being from earth, Li replied, "I don't wish to talk about myself at a higher level. People wouldn't understand it.") His regimen, promoted through books, tapes and videos, was wildly popular, eventually attracts, was wildly popular, eventually attracts, are port-

ed 60 million adherents—4 million more than the Communist Party.

The party, inevitably, took note.
It repeatedly refused to approve
Falun Gong conventions, and a year
ago, Lileft China at
the apparent urging
of authorities. He
was hardly friendless upon arrival in
the U.S.: in 1996

ile in Beijing Houston's mayor proclaimed a Li Hongzhi Day—and there are Falun Gong chapters in eight countries and 21 American states. Li's finances seem robust, although it's unclear how much

control he has over his organization. That includes the Beijing protest. A deputy for Li, who was in Australia last week, Idol Time, "He had nothing to do with the demonstrations in China. They were spontaneous." Indeed, on the day of the protest, a visibly annoyed Premier Zhu received four delegates from the sect and reportedly demanded. "Who is you'll be a compared to the compa

The governmen's task is delicate. Zhu painfully aware of the Tiananmen anniversary, recently ordered authorities to refrain from "crude" crackdowns on social unrest. The group, however, may be harmless to the regime. Li missits that "I want to teach people to be good, not to be involved in politics." Yet historically, secret societand spiritual masters have challenged, and even toppled, Chinese dynasties, and President Jiang Zemin has stressed a need to "suppress cults and the use of religion to engage in illegal activities."

By Wednesday the government seemed to opt for a fairly hard line. It stepped up surveillance on Falun Gong members and called the demonstration "completely wrong." For now, Li's followers' decision to take to the streets appears to have backfired, and aliens had nothing to do with it. "Reported by Jaime A. FlorCrus(Beilige).

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A NATION'S SELF

By ROBERT HUGHES

T'S AN ENORMOUS, BAGGY SUBJECTfrom the confidence of the gilded age to the imperial anxieties of the cold war: from a portrait by Thomas Eakins to a green humanoid by William Baziotes; from Stanford White's classicism to the democratic boxes of post-World War II Levittown; from Alfred Stieglitz's immigrants on shipboard to Robert Frank's visions of the underface of big-city America.

The American Century," part one of which opened two weeks ago in New York City, is the biggest curatorial effort by the Whitney Museum of American Art in a

long, long while-an ambitious and, for the most part, rewarding show. Its aim is to narrate the story of American art (mostly painting and photography, but some sculpture, design and architecture) over the past 100 years and to make sense-brief sense, inevitably-of the relations between that art and the changing society around it.

This first installment (on view through Aug. 22) takes us from 1900 to 1950, and the

second (to open Sept. 26) will see the story through to the century's end. The show's curator is Barbara Haskell, the only reputable art historian the embattled Whitney had left on its staff when the scheme was launched three years ago, and she has produced a serviceable and often illuminating catalog, reinforced by scores of sidebars on dance, music, film and dozens of other subjects not amenable to gallery treatment, written by no fewer than 22 other contributors. Practically nowhere does this 400-page tome show a trace of the poxy French-colonial, theoretical jargon whose "discourse" has disfigured so many other museum publications (including the Whitney's) in the past 15 years, and that is a great mercy.

The theme is complicated somewhat by the fact that no century, and certainly not the 20th, starts or finishes neatly in culture or in politics when the zeroes click over, Ours, like Europe's, "began" among the slaughters of the trenches, say around 1914, and "finished" with the collapse of Soviet communism, say around 1989, thus becoming the shortest ever. The phrase the American Century comes. of course, from a wartime editorial written in LIFE by its founder, Henry Luce, expressing an updated view of the 19th century belief in Manifest Destiny: that it was the fate and duty of America to "lead the world" in all things-spiritual, political, cultural and economic.

This was plausible in 1941, with Nazism, Fascism and Japanese imperialism overrunning the world. Today its premise is expiring, with loud bangs and many whimpers, in a liar's presidency and on the ghastly fields of the former Yugoslavia. But it's almost impossible to exaggerate how deeply Americans felt this destiny in the period covered by this show. roughly from the Administration of Theo-



dore Roosevelt to the outbreak of the cold war. And they had reason to believe it. They did not, however, believe it about

GEORGE BELLOWS

Paddy Flannigan, 1908

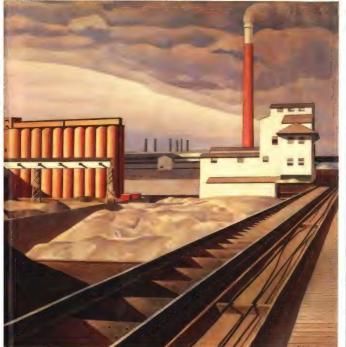
their own culture, especially in the field of "high" visual art. The American public, between 1900 and 1950, was distinctly timid about appreciating the work of American artists, and to modernist ones it could be quite hostile. What worked in favor of the art, in the end, was the insatiable appetite for the new that had been built into European America's social contract ever since the Puritans came to Massachusetts to create the New Jerusalem. To Americans between 1900 and 1950, however, the idea of





-IMAGE

Can all of American art in the 20th century be encompassed in a museum show? In New York, the Whitney gives it a brave try—with balance, care and a keen eye for the best examples



as a way banks a convenient out

an American Century in the arts-other than popular mass culture-would have made little sense.

Marvels have been created out of a sense of inferiority, as the history of American museums proves. But from the 1880s to the late 1950s. American museumsthe Whitney itself being the lone exceptionwere less interested in fostering American artists than in acquiring, at warp speed, the cultural treasures of Europe. This applied to modernism as well as to the Renaissance, and it wouldn't change until the late '50s, when Abstract Expressionism began to be elevated into the Triumph of American Painting. Earlier 20th century American art took much longer to be appreciated by Americans (or anyone else). Names like John Marin, Marsden Hartley or Charles Demuth still

mean nothing in Europe, and until | quite recently the proposal that Stuart Davis was as fine a painter as Jackson Pollock would have struck most cognoscenti as barmy, even heretical.

The obsessive promotion of AbEx as the great American moment, the arrival of sudden maturity, is waning now (How could anyone keep it up?), but it has a slightly weird consequence for this show. The older works-the ones from the teens, '20s and '30slook fresher than the vounger ones. We are used to seeing endless reproductions of de Kooning, Pollock, Rothko-but not of Elie Nadelman, Arthur Dove or Joseph Stella. Because of this contrast, the top two floors of the show-it starts at the top and, taking advantage of gravity, goes

downward-seem

more interesting than

the third. That's not

the art's fault, but it



BRADLEY WALKER TOMLIN No. 2, 1950

goes a long way toward fixing the imbalance in Americans' views of their own past art-a bias summarized in the silly idea that American modernism was creeping around in larval form until after World War II, when Pollock, de Kooning et al. spread their redeeming wings.

The show is a straightforward trot through art and social history, aimed directly at a general, nonspecialist public-the kind of public the Whitney needs to reach if it is to recover from its long doldrums. Much is riding on the show's success or failure. Because it was underwritten by Intel, a great song and dance is made about the marvels of the websites and of getting people wired into art history.

But it's the actual works of art, not their teensy digital clones. that count.

The exhibition itself is sober, clearly set out and-given some of the Whitney's embarrassing efforts in the past to swamp serious art with intrusive audiovisual aids like at the 1995 Edward Hopper show-fairly short on hoopla. It touches upon all the major American movements of the 20th century and does it with balance and care and, in general, a keen eve for the best examples. If you want a short account of the turn-of-the-century New York realist group known as the Ashcan School (Robert Henri, John Sloan, George Bellows and others), the selection here could hardly be bettered.

The American Century" makes proper acknowledgments to minority artists without making excessive claims. There is, for instance, a small section on the art produced by the Harlem Renaissance in the '20s and '30s, but the show

doesn't fall into the trap of pretending that the artists concerned have to be the equals, in their field, of great black writers like Langston Hughes. Nor does it indulge in the kind of sentimental feminism that would have you believe that Georgia O'Keeffe, say, was a sacrosanct culture heroine and as good a painter as others in the Stieglitz circle. such as Dove or Hartley.

In a country of immigrants, the question of who is and who is not an American artist is always a vexing one. In the early 20th century, modernism itself was attacked as an "alien," or immigrant, form, America has never been short of blood-in-the-eye nativists and cultural conservatives (not a few of them painters, like Thomas Hart Benton), who believed that the art of Jews, gays and anyone else they disliked couldn't be really American. Such primitivism is gone now-or, at any rate, nobody who cares about art would deploy it. Obviously, the question can't be answered by including everyone who lived for a time in the U.S. and influenced the art scene there, because that would make Max Ernst an American instead of a Franco-German surrealist and confer a sort of honorary American

ELIE NADELMAN

Tango, C. 1919



PAUL STRAND Wall Street, 1915

status on the Cuban Wilfredo Lam. It would also have made the show unmangeably large. Practically everyone in it, as it stands, was a U.S. citizen and resident, though expatriates like Patrick Henry Bruce (1881-1936), who left America early and came back only to commit suicide, are included.

Actually, the cultural xenophobes weren't entirely wrong. Modernism was an immigrant, and the anxiety that haunted American artists for most of the 50 years the show covers was that of provincialism. In some respects the moderns were less original than the great American figures of the 19th century: John James Audubon, Frederick Church, Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer. You were likely to be running behind the tick of the big clocks in Paris and Berlin whether you were Childe Hassam doing Impressionist streetscapes 30 years after Monet or a New York abstractionist producing ideal geometries in the early 1940s. "We all steal," said Arshile Gorky to Ilya Bolotowsky, "You steal from Cahiers d'Art [a French art magazine of the '30s]; I steal from Cahiers d'Art. The only difference is I steal better than you, because I know French and you don't!" The very American twist on this story was that Gorky didn't actually know any more French than Bolotowsky

Early American modernism is filled England and Australia was

with European borrowings, from Maitise, Picasso, Kandinsky, Mondrian, Picabia, Léger, etc., etc. Nothing characteristically American there, you might say, But the crux of the identity issue is not the stylistic sources the artists drew on but the experiences on which they used them. It was there that the American-ness of American art hove into view, and it showed itself in two enormous image fields.

The first of these was the idea of landscape as epic, spiritual and transcendental. The cluster of feelings surrounding American landscape had come directly into modern art from 19th century images of sacred wilderness-God's fingerprint, there in the Catskills or the Grand Canyon. This would be faithfully preserved by photographers, like Ansel Adams at Yosemite. But 20th century painters from Dove and Hartley through Pollock conveyed them into more modern idioms, often with great power and poignancy. Landscape, in fact. was the matrix in which most of the impulses of Amer-

ican abstract art, except for its weaker strand of purist geometry, unfolded. In no other country except England and Australia was

the relation between abstraction and landscape so strong, but in America it had a special persistence because of its Transcendentalist roots and

overtones of mysticism. The second image field arose from a fascination with the power of the diametric opposite of nature-industrial imagery, seen as the essence of 20th century experience and as belonging more vividly to America than to any other place. If God was present in the mountain lake, he could also be uneasily satirized as a plumber's grease trap by the New York Dadaist Morton Schamberg: if sublimity was in the mountains, it was also in the skyscrapers of New York City and in the relentlessly massed geometric forms of the Ford auto plant at River Rouge, Mich., which Charles Sheeler, who painted and photographed them in 1927.

saw as "our substitute for re-

Some American artists and photographers were critical of Promethean technology. The image of the impersonal, overwhelming machine, successor to Blake's "satanic mills," flourished after the Wall Street Crash of 1929. Others saw salvation in it. But certainly no culture responded so passionately to it as America's; and in doing so, it produced the complicated and morally fraught self-portrait whose outlines are traced in this exhibition. For once, the Whitney has come up with a show that nobody interested in America and its self-image can afford to miss.

WALTER DORWIN TEAGUE AND WALTER DORWIN TEAGUE JR. Marmon 16, 1930

Britain's Bella Donna

The motherland has exported a talented new actress. It's Anna Friel, unstuffy glamour girl

By GINIA BELLAFANTE

PRIMATE WIATTRULY SEPARTES US from the British even now, in the era of Tony Blair's fox-hunting-bedammed Cool Britannia, is the permeability of our show-business class. While the British still seem to require that their actors study Marlowe at Cambridge and enunciate their words in the manner of those listed in Burke's Perge, well live in a country where Tony Danza might—and does—turn up in The Ceman Cometh. By the restrictive standards of her homeland, then, British actures Anna Friel, 22, currently

tress Anna Friel, 22, currently making her theatrical debut in the hit Broadway play Closer, has experienced a mesmerizing turn of fortune. In just three years, with no classical training behind her. Friel, the daughter of middle-class parents, has gone, sexually abused lesbian in the British nighttime soap Brooks did to being a serious and sophisticated actress who is quickly gaining international celebrity.

Friel's role as Closer's Alice, a raw-nerved waif with an irrenarably scarred heart, has easily made her one of the most talked-about actresses in Manhattan. Among those who've visited her backstage are Steven Spielberg and Mr. and Mrs. Tom Cruise, who brought flowers ("to be that famousand so nice," she remarks). Friel's stellar reviews include one from the New Yorker where she was described as the "powerhouse" of the play's cast and "a ravishing new-

comer whose authenticity

ANNA WORLD A Broadway
play, a film at Cannes and fun
times with Kate Moss

makes it impossible to take your eyes off her." Next week Friel will make her Hollywood debut in Michael Hoffman's movie version of Midsummer Night's Dream. She'll also be turning up at Cannes, as a modern single mother in the British comedy Mad Cows.

In possession of beauty at once sultry, pixie-ish and refined, Friel grew up in northern England aspiring to capitaize on her skill for argument rather than her looks. "I wanted to be a lawyer," she says. "I was on the debating team; we'd re-create Parliament, and I won computers for our school." But a life as Martal and the shadown of the shadown of the shadown of the properties of the shadown of th

> cia Clark was not to be. During her middle-school years, Friel became involved with a local theater group, performing in student-written plays. At 15, she landed her first TV role, as Michael Palin's daughter in the British series GBH.

Film parts started to come soon after she was killed off in *Brookside*, and so too did a starring part in an impressive BBC production of Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*.

It is essentially Friel's lack of selfconsequence that makes her so appealingly distinct from other British actressesand many American ones too. "Anna doesn't have stage-school technique," notes her countryman Patrick Marber, writer and director of Closer. "She's very natural and all from the heart."

Moreover, the actress seems to be leading as unglitzy a social life as a person can have when good friends include Natasha Richardson, Ewan McGregor (with whom she stars in the British film Rogue Trader, premiering in the U.S. on Cinemax next month) and Kate Moss. She's single and dating now and then, even though she finds American men somewhat inscrutable: "Men are wonderfully upfront here. But you go out, you have a lovely time, you're asked a lot of questions, and you don't know if the guy's ever going to call again." Following her nightly performances on Broadway, Friel often goes to a divey neighborhood bar, where she has been learning to swing dance. We suspect that she doesn't run into Dame Iudi Dench or Kate Winslet there.

But Midsummer Night's Drear

I's the fate of Anna Friel's character, Hermia, to get rather tool in so-so productions of Afficiammer High!" Seeam, and sure enough, that's what happens in Michael Hoffman's adaptation, which oxymoroinally manages to seem both the seem of the se

Hoffman stages their play-within-a-play with energetic conviction, and Bottom's misalilance with Titania, the fairy queen (Michelle Preifer), is played with a certain sexy intensity. But the human lovers (who include Calista Flockhart as the comically obsessed Helena), muddled by

the carelesaness of Stanley Tuccl's smug Puck with his love pothons, don't achieve firm definition.
Lacking the center of concern they might provide, this version of the play becomes a collection of well-loved scenes: dutful but mostly

unmagical.

—By Richard Schickel

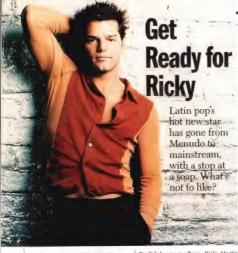


FOR ABUTURE SOX

MY LOVE IS FROM With Dominic West in Dream







By CHRISTOPHER JOHN FARLEY

ISTENING TO A RICKY MARTIN CD IS like buying a soda at the movies. You ask for the small, but when the guy behind the counter says, "Hey, the medium is only a quarter more," you realize how thirsty you are. So you go for it. Then the guy says, "How about the jumbo?" and you keep trading up until you end up with a vat of soda large enough to have an undertow. That drink is Ricky Martin. He lures you with his charisma, his outsize energy, his obvious love of performing, and soon enough the San Juan rhythms are pumping, his voice is pleading, the big emotions are coming at you and, oops, you've got a big ole cup of Ricky in your hands. Drink up

If a former Mouseketeer, Britney Spears, can land a No. 1 CD, the time is probably just about right for Martin, a former member of the Latin tene group Menudo, to burst onto the national stage. At 27. he is already a major star in Latin America. He first caught the eye of English-speaking. U.S. audiences with his joyous, hip-swiveling. eye-catchingly over-the-top performance at the Grammy Awards last February. Now, on May II, the Latin pops bart is set to release his first

English-language album, Ricky Martin (C2Records/Columbia). And he is raring to hit mainstream stardom. "Everything I do, I do when I'm ready," Martin says. "So now is the moment."

Enrique Martin Morales was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1971. In 1984, at 12, he joined the ever changing ranks of the boy group Menudo. "Two things can happen when you join a group like Menudo." says Robi Rosa, a fellow Menudo alum, who co-wrote Martinis current hit single, Literi la Wida Loca. "You can get all messed up, or you can app attention and learn from it. We learned a lot. For Ricky and me, the studio is like home now."

Martin soon embarked on a solo singing career, releasing a series of bubbly Spanish-language albums that

made full use of his good looks. (The back cover of his 1991 album has him ohso casually reclining in a wet ribbed tank top.) In 1994 Martin got a big break and landed a regular role on General Hospital. His part on the ABC soap was not a stretch—he played Miguel Morez, a

MY FAVORITE MARTIN: One of the songs on his album is a duet with Madonna

singer from Puerto Rico. Wendy Riche, General Hospital's executive producer, created the role after meeting with him just once. She was struck by his drive and determination to succeed. Says Riche: "He lives to perform."

You can feel it. Ricky is not a great CD, but it is energetic, forceful and eager to please. Martin works furiously to satisfy, to charm, to get feet moving, to keep hearts racing. This is an unabashed pop record, but it's saved by its Latin soul. It's charged with peppy horns and churning percussion and lyrics that yeer from English to Spanish and back again. Martin's singing talents are limited-his voice lacks power and depth-but he is not out simply to vocalize, he's out to entertain. On Shake Your Bon-Bon, he parties hard; on She's All I Ever Had, he delivers a power ballad with impressively aggressive sincerity. One of the CD's best cuts is Be Careful (Cuidado con Mi Corazón), a duet with Madonna. It's a compelling pairing; we feel the love, but it is not between Martin and his duet partner; it's a shared passion for superstardom, from a woman who has attained it and an up-and-comer who wants it This is a hot summer for Latin pop.

Due out later this season are CDs by Hollywood star turned singer Jennial Lopez. Colombian rocker Shakira and Puerto Rican salas star Marc Anthony, a man who is one of the most thrilling vocalists in any language and who will now get the chance to share his talents with a larger audience. Anthony and Lopez have already recorded an enchanting duet that will appear on both their CDs; it would also be exciting to hear him pair up with an established vocal star, someone like, say, Lauryn Hill.

In the meantime, Martin is on the fast track. Tom Calderone, senior v.p. for music and talent at MTV, says Martin's video Livin' la Vida Loca is one of the channel's five most requested clips. Saturday Night Live has booked him for a performance this weekend. It want to do this forever," says Martin. 'I want to be respected in the

Nature to be respected in the States in 20 years. So the first impression is very important." Indeed. The music Martin makes is the first taste of a more diverse, more flavorful America that grooves less to rock than to hip-hop and Latin pop. Want a sip? How about a jumbo? —With reporting by Autumn De Leonillew York.





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Broadway, Straight Up

Two sharp imports from Britain cap a season in which the music faded—and plays flourished

By RICHARD ZOGLIN

HEN ESME, THE CELEBRATED stage actress at the center of David Hare's play Amy's View, agrees to appear on her son-in-law Dominic's IV talk show, the topic he wants to discuss is whether theater is dead. There's no doubt where Dominic stands. Theater is so old fishioned, he complains, so slow moving: "Why don't we admit it? It's been superseded. It had it women! but its momen! bu

its moment, but its moment is gone."

Ouch. When even plays start to talk

earlier this season, reduced Schnitzler's La Ronde to a trivial actor's exercise for two. Hare then went one better (or one lesser) by appearing onstage alone, recounting his trip to the Middle East and calling it a play, Via Dolorosa. Another well-received import from Britain, The Weir, is a 90-minute chamber piece in which the denizens of a bar in Ireland trade ghost stories. This year's Pulitzer Prize for drama went to Wit, an affecting play about a woman dying of cancer, but seematilly an expanded monologue.

entially an expanded monologue.

Big_plays—works_with_imaginative

striving young critic to media superstar; Esme's descent into financial ruin; her mother-in-law's slide into senility. All of which is arrayed on a Shavian battlefield in which strong and articulate people grapple with ideas about art and life.

Martin McDonagh's The Lonesome West is more deceptive. It has the trappings of a small play-four characters, one bleakly confining set-but is really a very big one. In the third of his trilogy set in the rural Irish county of Galway (the first. The Beauty Oueen of Leenane, was a Broadway success last year; the second. A Skull in Connemara, has yet to be produced in the U.S.), McDonagh again shows a knack for casually mixing the blackest comedy with haunting human tragedy. Two brothers (Brian F. O'Byrne and Maeliosa Stafford) are visited on the day of their father's funeral by the local priest (David Ganly). It turns out that Dad was killed by one of the brothers



AMY'S VIEW: Dench and Bond as a mother and daughter at odds



THE LONESOME WEST: O'Byrne and Stafford as odd brothers

about whether plays are irrelevant, you know this is an art form in trouble. Yet the irony is that these lines are spoken in a play that is drawing near sellout crowds on Broadway and at the end of a season in which serious dramas have made a remarkable comeback. The new shows this season with the toughest tickets aren't the big splashy musicals (most of them were big splashy busts) but straight plays—especially revivals of two old-fashioned, slow-moving classies, Death of a Sulesman Cometh.

The success of these two giant tragedies is notable, for they stand in marked contrast to most of the pygmy-size works around them. New plays these days tend to be small, tidy things, dramas that tend their own little garden and don't venture very far into the wild outdoors. Hare's The Blue Room, which brought Nicole Kidman to Broadtway.

ambition, a social context, plots-still exist, however, and two have arrived to end Broadway's season with a flourish. Amy's View has been dismissed, somewhat patronizingly, as a vehicle for Judi Dench, fresh from her Oscar for Shakesneare in Love. As Esme, the self-centered actress whose relationship with her daughter (Samantha Bond) deteriorates over the years, Dench is indeed a marvel, as impressive for what she doesn't do as what she does. This is no scenery-chewing cartoon of a theatrical grand dame but a tightly controlled and utterly convincing portrait of a woman whose performance doesn't end when the house lights go up.

But Amy's View has more to offer. Along with a nuanced picture of the anguish a mother and daughter can cause each other without even trying, the play develops several contrapuntal themes: the rise of Dominic (Tate Donovan) from (accidentally, he claims); that the siblings fight viciously at the most trivial of provocations; and that the priest is near despair at a community in which cruelty and murder seem part of the landscape.

The Lonesome West has plenty of grisly laughs, but this is at bottom a terrifying, brilliant play. McDonagh's mad brothers wrestle on the ground like sixyear-olds but have the conscience-free menace of characters in a Tarantino film. The brother-vs.-brother conflict is reminiscent of Sam Shepard, but McDonagh's writing has more discipline, and more sadness. It's a splash of cold water on the romance of rural Ireland and a shocking vision of human nature turned rancid by boredom and isolation. In director Garry Hynes' nearly flawless production. The Lonesome West shows that the theater's moment may still have a few moments left.

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The Force Is with Her

Germaine Greer, fiery author of *The Female Eunuch*, goes in search of the whole woman

By ELIZABETH GLEICK STUMP CROSS

GEMANNE GREER IS IN
love. Or in lust. Or just
plain involved. She's
tenic coy about the details, but she is behaving
amazingly girlishly. She
goes a bit goosy when she
talks about the nameless
"him" for whom, she confesses, she is making a comoi-

lation tape so he can think of her while she is away in America. And like ke while she is away in America. And like regular women everywhere—women who arent, say, feminist icons who have written life-changing books like The Famale Emunch—she confesses. "I'm waiting for the phone to ring." It's not that corread wordsets such behavior—"I think it's ridiculous that I won't ring a man. I'm a '50 siril'—but there it is.

Image, step right up and meet reality. Thirty years after The Female Eunuch became a rallying cry for sexual liberation, making its striking young author an international star along the way, Greer, now 60, is out there being herself again; provocative, brilliantly engaging and maddeningly contradictory. She has a new book out this month, The Whole Woman (Knopf; 384 pages; \$25)-already a best seller in the U.K. and her native Australia-and a punchy new slogan, "It's time to get angry again." Feminism has stalled. Greer argues convincingly if muddily, pointing out that the equality women have fought for is not the same as liberation and hammering away at the advance of eating disorders, cosmetic surgery, violence against women, the power of the medical profession over women's bodies and, vitally, the feminization of poverty

This is a book Green never intended to write. But, she explains, "I can't bear what's happened to the whole discourse about ferminism. I can't bear its smugness, its complacency, its juvenility. There are women out there who are hurting, badly." In a flash she shifts from anguish to fierce sarcasm: "We can wear lipstick again. Did you ever stop? And if you stopped, why? And if you want to wear lipstick, go right ahead, but why warit on your lips? Wear it no your ass."

This is vintage Greer, profane and highly quotable. Says Knopf president Sonny Mehta, who was at Cambridge with Greer in the 1960s and who, over lunch in London's Soho, encouraged her to write The Fennal Euruche. 'Germaine is a force." Her skill as a quick-change polemicist is what gives The Whole Woman its flashes of originality: she takes issues on which most progressive women thought they had postitions and sets a standard all her own. You think sets ene good for women? Well, writes Green good for women? Well, writes Green (who underwent failed feetility treat-

Famous in Britain for blasting her critics and carefully tending her media image. Greer proves to be self-mocking and strikingly unselfconscious as she sits in the living room of her Essex farmhouse, with gardens, orchards, geese and pets outside. Complimented on the book, she begins rubbing her hands together and singing a song, à la Cream, whose lyrics consist entirely of, "I'm glad, I'm glad, yes I'm glad." She swerves from topic to topic, discussing her sister's flair for botany and home decor, spilling intimate details about one of her 13 godchildren, confessing that she is trying to lose weight for her U.S. book tour. Married for three weeks in 1968, she volunteers that she was unfaithful seven times. But ask her what, or who, is the "whole woman," and she turns sober

Could it be Greer herself: a woman who has, in many ways, devoted herself to the life of the mind, unhindered by family? She teaches at Warwick Univer-



ANGRY AGAIN: Greer, on her Essex farm, takes the scythe to much of modern feminism

ments), "I think it rather more likely that, | if women should be found to be unnecessary for the continuation of the species. they would cease to exist at all." Sexual freedom seem like a good thing? "The sexuality that has been freed is male sexuality." Women deserve an equal shot at a career in the military? Fine, but just remember: "In modern warfare, women and children on the ground are in greater danger than the professionals who maim and kill them from a distance." She will probably draw ire for her chapter on female genital mutilation, in which she argues that Western women should be worried instead about their own forms of mutilation, such as episiotomies or cosmetic surgery.

sity and produces scholarly studies on obscure women poets, whose work she publishes with her own Stump Cross Press. But Greer says the whole woman does not exist, and is not she. There's that little matter of waiting by the phone, for starters." I still, al, I make myself sick," she admits. "I will flirt, I will—bleccoch—do all of that s., jit's amazing.

do all of that s__ it's amazing."
Best not to know this about Greer, perhaps, and better to read her book for its takes of light on a perpetually murky subject. And best too to let Greer have the last word, since she will no doubt seize it anyway. "I don't want to tell people to do anything," she says. "I have put down what makes my heart ache, and either it will be helpful to coople. or it won't."

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*1997 Roper Youth Report **1997-98 PRIDE Survey Sinheuser Busch Inc

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SHORT TAKES

B 0 0 K S

EXPECTING ADAM By Martha Beck When Beck, a Harvard grad student with multiple degrees, discovers she's pregnant



against the abortion everyone recommends. Slyly ironic, frequently hilarious, Beck's memoir charts the journey from being smart to becoming wise, along the way drawing a believable portrait of a marriage in which two people root entirely for each other. In raising a child that isn't perfect, they find a life that is better than they could have imagined when they were sitting atop the ivory tower -By Margaret Carlson

MUSIC

PRINCESSES NUBIENNES Les Nubians If Sade were cloned twice and the resulting twin sisters were reared in France by members



of the Fugees, the women might sound something like the French singing team Les Nubians. Sisters Hèléne and Célia Faussart have a warm, engaging

sound that blends smooth jazz, soft pop and warm R. and B. with a dash of danceable hip-hop. There are an emotional generosity and a spiritual depth on this album that come through on every track. -By Christopher John Farley

ECHO Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers Tom Petty, an old-school rock 'n' roller to be sure, comes off almost as an endangered species here: cornered, and



trified croon. The songs on Echo

don't mess with the form much; they arrive, they rock, they leave. This CD isn't a knockout, but it has punch. -C.I.F.

TELEVISION

THE HUNT FOR THE UNICORN KILLER

NBC, May 9, 10 In the early '70s. Holly Maddux, beautiful Bryn Mawr alum, met Ira Einhorn, charming social activist. Ira, Holly soon learned, was also an abusive womanizer. Eventually her rotting corpse was

found in his apartment. Having fled the U.S. for Ireland. Einhorn was finally tried in absentia and found guilty of murder. (He's currently in France, where he is appealing extradition.) Out of this intricate, unsettling story has come a flat, ponderous miniseries.



The pace is maddeningly sluggish, and Kevin Anderson generates too little of the charisma that the real Einhorn must have possessed. -Bu William Tunan

CINEMA

THREE SEASONS Directed by Tony Bui Snapshot parables from today's Saigon: a young woman (Nguyen Ngoc Hiep) befriends a leprous poet; a pedicab driver idolizes a bitter whore; an American visitor (Harvey Keitel), who sired a



child back in the war days, returns to search for his daughter. Writer-director Bui, who left Vietnam when he was two, returns to graft these daintily sentimental tales onto rapturous vistas, photogenic faces and a long history of colonial hurt. Alas, Three Seasons, a Sundance prizewinner, shows little more than Bui's fondness for visual and narrative clichés. A better director will have to make the definitive "post-Vietnam" Vietnam film. —By Richard Corliss

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worst enemy.

Himself,

MacArthur

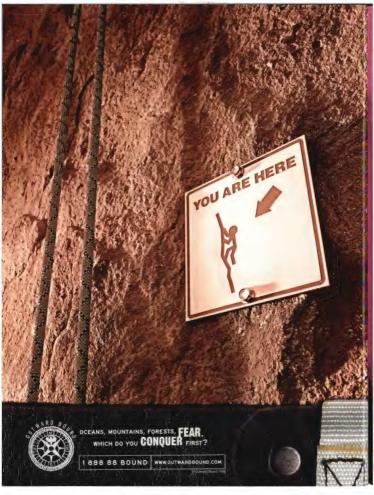
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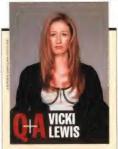


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The Positive Place For Kids



Vicki Lewis is on NBC's NewsRadio and in the film Pushing Tin.

Q: Do you know what I do for a living? A: All I know is, people tell me to be scared. Q: Am I as scary as you hoped?

A: No. I thought you'd be weaselly, little, scrawny, darty.

Q: I'm pretty darty. A: You're darty. But you're handsome. Q: See, now I'll skip the questions, I got the quote I need. But O.K., do you feel a lot of rivalry with the wacky redhead on

Suddenly Susan? A: I do find it coincidental that I was on the air for a year and a half, and my real name is Vicki, and there appeared a

character named Vicki dressed like my twin on a new show. They basically copied our set, and there's all the characters with their names different. Q: Have you thought about a tug-of-war or bowling or some kind of challenge?

Q: Aren't you secretly hoping they cancel NewsRadio and put it out of its misery? A: I have two thoughts on that. One: yeah. And the other one is that this is the last year of our contract, and it's a chance for us to finally make some

A: Here's a bigger word: suing.

money: \$60,000 to \$70,000 an episode. Q: Come on. You've got money. A: I've sold out a lot. I did a commercial for Miller beer, which they never aired.

Q: I want to know how much you got, because Rick Reilly of SPORTS ILLUSTRATED did one of those. A: I don't know how much everyone else made. I made \$350,000.

Q: Who do you play on The Downtow the upcoming prime-time cartoon? A: I play two characters: a fun character and an urban lewish mom.

O: Like my mom. A: Are you Jewish? You don't seem Iewish. Did vou have a nose job?

Q: I don't seem Jewish? My name is Joel Stein. Would "Menachem Schneerson" give it away? By Joel Stein



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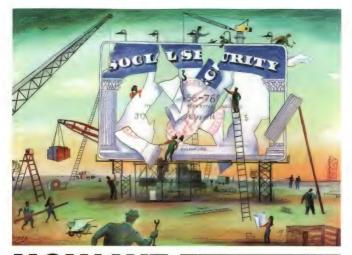
it's impossible to act my age. If you don't believe me, ask Grace. You'll find us dancing at the Café Encantador three nights a week (and in our living room the other four). How do we keep the fires burning after forty years? We dance, romance, and take care of each other. A year ago, it seemed I was making more trips to the bathroom than to the ballroom. I was worried it could be my prostate. No amount of dancing can fix that. Grace told me to call the doctor. He said it's a common problem for men my age, and suggested trying The Prostate Formula. It's a dietary supplement with Saw Palmetto and other natural ingredients. Soon, I was out on the dance floor again. Gracie says if you live your passion, you'll never be old.

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HOW WE CAN FIX SOCIAL SECURITY

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Forget wishful thinking and the either-or argument. We'll need a wide-ranging plan that borrows ideas from right, center and left

By GEORGE J. CHURCH

QUARTER-CENTURY OF WRITING AND EDITING ANALYSES of Social Security had convinced me that no one would cobble together even a jury-rigged fix for the system until five minutes before the first pension check bounced—if then. But now President Clinton really has put "saving Social Security" at the top of the nation's domestic agenda, sparking a debate unprecedented in its intensity. So maybe...

Then again, maybe not. A good deal of the debate is confused, ideologically envenomed, or both. Left and right squabble furiously over the latest idea—totally replacing Social Security with a system of individual investment accounts. Now, even this mattebased approach is being shelved by its Republican proponents, who have become fearful of the political risks.

Some people think wishfully that rapid economic growth will enable the Social Security system to muddle through pretty much as is. Others talk in either-or terms—either funnel most fu-



Besides helping to pay future pensions, individual investment accounts could give many people their first-ever chance to accumulate wealth

ture budget surpluses into Social Security and invest some of that money in the stock market, or increase Social Security taxes and modestly reduce benefits—and the problem will be solved.

Sorry, but it won't wash. The size of the gap between Social Security tax collections and pension payouts over the next 30 or so years, and how far any specific proposal would go toward closing that gap, are still anybody's guess. And those guesses append on such variables as the speed of economic growth, the future pace of inflation and the course of the stock market—all notoriously difficult to predict even a year ahead. Estimates clash so sharply as to invite suspicion that they are shaped more by political bias than by analysis.

But it is possible to indicate orders of magnitude. Currently there are a bit more than three taxpaying workers supporting one retiree. By the 2030s, when the tidal wave of baby-boomer retirements crests, there will be only two. Somewhere around 2014, the system is expected to be paying out more in benefits than it collects in taxes, forcing Social Security to start cashing in the Treasury bonds in its trust fund, whose assets are now more than \$760 billion. By 2034, that too will be gone, and taxes will cover only an estimated 71% of annual pensions.

One estimate is that under present tax and benefit schedules, the Social Security system would plunge \$6.9 trillion into debt between 2014 and 2024. If that is accurate, Clinton's 1999 budget proposals, which are supposed to pump \$2.7 trillion into Social Security during the next 15 years, would close less than half the initial gap. Further reforms would be needed to keep revenues in balance with payouts after 2034. Also, the present system contains some glaring inequities that ought to be corrected—at the cost of making the fiscal gap even wider. No one proposal will probably come near to filling it. What is needed, in my opinion, is a comprehensive program, summarized by these commands.

PLAY THE STOCK MARKET. By now there is wide agreement that stock and bond markets could in effect pay much of the nearly 30% of pensions that Social Security taxes will eventually no longer cover. But who should invest how much of the system's money? Clinton's proposal to have the government do the investing is a poor second best-and not only because of the danger of political manipulation of business. More fundamentally, individuals ought to have some say in how to invest money that the government taxes away from them. Redirecting some Social Security money into individual investment accounts would have social benefits too. It would give many of the 60% of Americans who have yet to share in the stock market boom the starting capital to join the partyand perhaps the only chance they will ever get to begin accumulating some wealth.

All this assumes, of course, that financial-market investments will continue to provide an attractive return. That seems reasonable, at least in the long run. Martin Feldstein, president of the National Bureau of Economic Research, calculates that a portfolio 60% of which is invested in stocks and 40% in bonds would grow on average 5.5% a year. That represents the actual average from the end of World War II until today, minus an allowance for administrative costs. By contrast, the special Treasury bonds that, by May, Social Security must now buy with any

A History of Social Security



1935

On Aug. 14, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Social Security Act, designed to pay retired workers age 65 and older a continued income.

1940

Payments of monthly benefits begin; the first check of \$22.54 is sent to Ida May Fuller, who, by the time she died at 100, had received \$22,888.92

1961

The Social Security Amendments, signed by President John F. Kennedy, allow all workers to choose reduced benefits if they retire at age 62.

1975

Automatic COLAs (cost of tiving allowances based on the annual increase in the CPI) are paid for the first time, so beneficiaries no longer have to wait for a special act of Congress to receive an increase.

1998

Number of people working in jobs covered by Social Security: 148 million. More than 44 million received \$375 billion in benefits, in contrast to just over 222,000 in 1940, who received \$35 million.

1999

The Social Security Trust Funds begin the year with \$762.5 billion in assets.

2014

Trust Fund expenditures will exceed tax revenues for the first time.

2034

Tax revenues will pay only 71% of benefits, and the Trust Funds' assets will be



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spare cash it has may yield on average less than 3%.

But many pensioners, present and future, would be terrified of having their retirement income depend heavily on the short-term ups and downs of Wall Street. They would have to be guaranteed a fairly high pension still paid out of regular Social Security taxes—currently 12.4% of each employee's wages, split between worker and boss—no matter what.

A Senate bill written by Democrats Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York and Robert Kerrey of Nebraska would allow workers to divert 2% into investment accounts but would lower guaranteed benefits to what could be financed out of the remaining 10.4%. Feldstein has an even better idea: keep present tax and benefit rates but have the government deposit into individual accounts an additional 2% of each

worker's earnings, up to the prescribed annual taxable limit. On retirement the worker would repay Uncle Sam §3 of every §4 he or she had in the account. Taxpayers under this scheme might earn somewhat less, in total, than under Moynlam's plan-though that one-fourth share could add up over decades. On the other hand, they would run little if any risk of losing anything, and the government would eventually get the government would eventually get enue to help pay the guaranteed pensions. But suppose sharpies bamboodie Grand-

pa into buying stock in Fraudulent Uranium Co. or Flim-Flam.com? Not to worry: the law should allow only competent and honest professional managers to bid for call Security money—and require them to offer a wide choice among funds making highly conservative to more adventurous investments, which is roughly the deal enjoyed today by employees in company 404(k) plans. In any investing, some risk is investible, but probably less than the risk that pensions would be slashed to keep a completely tax-financed systems sound.

PAY YOUR DEBT, UNCLE SAM! Right now the Treasury is still borrowing big Social Security surpluses—\$99 billion in fiscal 1998 to wipe out deficits in everything else the government does, allowing it to report a consolidated surplus. About 15 years from



One earns \$500,000 a year and pays 1.8% of that in Social Security taxes. The other makes up to \$72,600 and pays 6.2%

now, though, there will be no more Social Security surplus. The rest of the government will have to be running honest-to-goodness surpluses big enough to begin repaying its accumulated debt to Social Security.

It won't happen automatically. Rosy current projections could go wrong—the February 1997 projection of 1998 results was off by \$191 billion. Clainon has proceed using 62% of surpluses during the next 15 years to pay down the \$3.7 trillion national debt. Congress should raise that to a full two-thirds and write the requirement into law. That would go far toward preventing politicians from squandering the surpluses on tax-cutting or spending sprees. It

Fewer Workers Supporting a Larger Number of Retirees

Number of Workers paying into Social Security for each beneficiary source Social Security for each beneficiary sources Social Security S

would also ease the immense burden of interest payments-currently \$229 billion a year-on federal finances and help pep up the economy. The more debt the government pays off as it comes due, the less new money it must borrow to refinance the remaining debt: the less the government borrows, the more loan money is freed to finance consumer spending and business investment. All that will help assure that the forecast surpluses materialize and become available to help Social Security in its hour of need.

A BREAK. Social Security taxes are a crushing and unfair burden on low-paid workers. And make no mistake: they pay not just the 6.2% of earnings that shows on their paychecks but also their employers' theoretical share as well. A

GIVE THE WORKING POOR

boss who figures he can afford an additional cost of, say, \$300 a a week to hire a new worker will deduct the combined 12.4% share, or \$37.20, and pay the employee only \$262.80. And at present there is no way to lighten the tax—no exemptions. no deductions, no adiustments.

Republican Senator John Ashcroft of Missouri has sugested allowing workers to take an income tax deduction equal to their supposed half share of Social Security taxes. Right idea, wrong numbers. Ashcroft would give this break to anyone earning \$70,000 a year or less. It should be targeted much more closely on those struggling to escape or avoid poverty—perhaps those earning no more than \$30,000. The many families in this bracket who earn too little to payincome taxy et "contribute" to Social Security should get a proportionate cash refund in the form of an expanded earned-income credit.

MAKE THE RICH PAY MORE. Social Security taxes are now levied on only the first \$72,600 of wages or salary, an amount that gradually increases, and the salary would pay Social Security less than 1.8% of his full earnings, even counting the employer's theoretical share, while the people who empty his trash baskets pay 5.2%, or actually 12.4%, on every dollar of their scart wages. The cap should be abolished and all wages sealary income taxed at the same rate.

Could you have cataracts?

Despite wearing glasses, do you have difficulty...

	res	140	
I. Seeing in the distance or reading?			
2. Distinguishing road signs at dusk?			
3. Recognizing colors?			
4. Recognizing friends and family at a distance?			
5 Driving at night?			

If you answered "yes" two or more times, you may have cataracts. If you do, don't worry. Cataract surgery is now safer, faster, and more comfortable than ever before.

A cataract is a clouding of the eye's natural lens. In today's cataract surgery, the lens is removed and replaced with a man-made implant to restore vision. Traditional implants are designed to provide good vision at one distance—usually far—so most people need glasses for close-up activities like reading or crafts.

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DEFLATE THE FATTEST PILLOWS.

Social Security was meant to keep the elderly from falling into poverty when they could no longer work, not to plump up an extra cushion under the already well off. Investment banker Peter Peterson proposes paying full Social Security benefits only to those whose income from other sources is \$35,000 a year or less. Payments to the better off would be reduced on a sliding scale starting at 7.5%; those with outside income of \$185,000 or more would receive only 15% of the Social Security pension that they would qualify for without such a means test. Again, correct principle, but too drastic. Pensions should be reduced only for those earning \$50,000 or more. The budget-balancing Concord Coalition es-

timates that this move would save the government \$20 billion a year.

SWITCH TO A "DIET COLA." More formally, adopt a formula for cost of living allowances that increases pensions less rapidly than the consumer price index rises. Inflation has subsided so drastically as to drain the urgency from this proposal. Also, because of changes in the way it is calculated, the CPI no longer overstates inflation by a bit more than one percent- 4.5%, and so on.

PEBES: A Tool to Help You Plan Your Future

To plan your retirement you need to know what you will receive from Social Security. For the first time, beginning this October, the Social Security Administration will mail a Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate Statement annually to everyone over 25. (Those older than 40 should have already received one in the mail.) If you have not received a PEBES, which includes a complete earnings and

Social Security-tax history and an estimate of retirement. survivor and disability benefits, or do not want to wait for one. call 1-800-772-1213 to request form SSA-7004. Or you can obtain the form at the Administration's website. www.ssa.gov. Whether you submit the SSA-7004 by mail or electronically, a response will arrive by mail in four to six weeks.



age point, as a government panel of economists thought it did two or three years ago. But some overestimation probably remains, and could cause trouble in the hardly impossible event that price increases speed up once more. So it would be a wise precaution to decide that if the CPI rises more than 2% in a year, the COLA would go up half a point less. If the CPI rises 2.5%, pensions would go up 2%; a CPI increase of 5% would boost pensions RAISE THE RETIREMENT AGE-

but not for everybody. Life expectancy has increased greatly since Social Security payments started in 1940, but the age for retiring with full benefits is still 65. Next year it is scheduled to begin increasing gradually to 67 by 2027. It could be raised further to 70. But raising the earliest age for retire-

ment with partial benefits from the present 62 to 65, as many ardent reformers propose, would be a mistake. Miners, laborers and other manual workers have enough trouble continuing their exhausting toil even to age 62. For many, staying on the job until they are 65 or older could imperil their health-or even life.

STOP SHORTCHANGING WORKING-WOMEN. Social Security is a rare if

not unique institution that pays cash for housework and mothering. It pays a wife a benefit at least equal to 50% of her husband's, even if she never worked outside the home or paid a penny of Social Security tax. But women who worked on and off at low-paying jobs, as all too many in the generation nearing retirement age have done, receive pensions no higher than the stay-at-home moms. In effect, the Social

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Older women are more dependent on Social Security than men. Yet they receive less: a monthly average of \$611, in contrast to men's \$819

Security taxes these workingwomen have | a couple makes, say, a combined \$60,000 paid earn them nothing. | a cyar, husband and wife would each be

Individual investment accounts might help remedy this; whatever a woman earned on investments would be hers to keep and would add to the pension she would otherwise get. But much more should be done. The National Organization for Women advocates an incomesplitting approach for married women; if

a couple makes, say, a combined \$60,000 a year, husband and wife would each be credited with \$30,000 of earnings for 50-cial Security purposes. This arrangement would be costly and no doubt difficult to sell to male legislators. But it sounds fair—a partial remedy for the discrimination that still keeps the pay of even many highly shilled professional woman below that of men doing the same job.

Some colleagues have asked me. "Do we really need to do all that?" Maybe notif the economy and the stock market continue to boom and inflation stays tame for years to come. But we shouldn't take chances. The system needs to be shored up so it can continue to keep the elderly out of poverty, come what may: recession, a stock-market crash, a flare-up of inflation or even all these things together. In the unlikely event that the economy continues to show its remarkable combination of superfast growth, superlow unemployment and superlow inflation for another decade or so, and the stock market soars even further into the wild blue yonder, then this program could be softened. Some ideas: restore full COLAS; do not increase the "normal" retirement age beyond 67, and set the earliest at 60; grant income tax deductions equal to Social Security levies to people with somewhat more income-maybe as much as \$50,000.

This program, which borrows ideas from Ashcroft on the right to Now on the left, can hardly be called partisan. Nor can it be called self-serving. If it had been in effect years ago, I would have paid Social Security tax on much more of my 1995-97 income. And my proposed means test would bar me from collecting much, if any, future pension benefits.

Tough! It needs to be done.



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Can You Read This?

By ANDREA SACHS

ne morning the name of the town on the road map you're reading seems unnecessarily small. Then you notice how microscopic the print on the medicine bottle has become. How the addresses in the phone book have become exasperatingly inscrutable. And how they're just not printing paperback novels very well anymore: the text seems like one big blur.

Welcome to the world of the incredible shrinking word. Fading sight is a common sign of aging, as are a host of more serious vision problems such as macular degeneration, glaucoma and cataracts. Others have been here before, of course. But because baby boomers are arriving in droves, these difficulties are getting an unprecedented amount of attention. Medical science has developed impressive techniques using lasers and corneal implants to correct vision defects. Some people, however, still need bigger type in order to read comfortably-and the publishing industry is coming to their rescue.

Traditionally, large-print books have been a sleepy area of publishing. But, according to the Lighthouse International, 17% of all people age 45 and older-about 13.5 million Americans-report some form of vision impairment. By the year 2010, when boomers will all have reached age 45, that total will increase to 20 million-a number that has not escaped publishing houses. "There's been a huge growth in the number of titles available," says Fred Olsen of Thorndike Press, the world's largest publisher of large-print books. "The number has probably doubled in the past five years."

Until recently those titles, whether classics or current best sellers, have been available mainly in loan libraries. Vernon Ellickson, 83, is a typical large-type reader. A retired farmer with macular degeneration. Ellickson goes to the library in Decorah, Iowa, twice a week to

westerns and adventure books. He never buys them. "It would cost a lot," says Ellickson, who often reads more than a dozen large-print books a week. Publisher Olsen says this is not unusual. "When you're on a fixed income, to pay for a one-time read is inefficient when you can go to the library. A lot of these people are voracious readers.'

But several large commercial publishers are determined to change the habits of the large-type-reading public as it grows. This fall, Random House and Harper-Collins are launching new divisions to capture the big-print audience. Says Michael Morrison, associate publisher of the HarperCollins adult trade division: "A lot of the reason there has not been an explosion in sales of large-print books in bookstores is that people don't even know they exist. Booksellers have traditionally shelved them in a section in the back of the store." But publishers intend to change that-by persuading booksellers to showcase these books near the front of the store and offer crowd-pleasing discounts.

Drawing these readers out of the library and into the bookstore is also a goal at Random House. Christine McNamara, director of marketing for the large-print division, observes that "nobody has tried this before. No one has gone after the market this way." Random House plans to charge the same price for a

large-type book as for its conventionaltype counterpart-

WRIT LARGE: Publishers are rushing to please the aging population by putting out a record number of large-print novels, westerns, romances, newspapers, periodicals, celebrity memoirseven Oprah's picks

THE OFISHAM

cam quickly until Hark offered the

Twenty-two

e New?



Money Tips You Need Now





and use the same covers to minimize the perception that these books are different. Says McNamara: "They'll look just as sexy and glossy as the regular trade edition-just a little bit fatter.

Publishers acknowledge that most large-type readers are older and have older reading tastes. Westerns, which have almost disappeared from bookstores, are still a thriving genre in large type, "Mass market and pulp westerns were popular in the '30s and '40s," says Thorndike's Olsen, whose publishing house offers hundreds of large-type westerns. The life stories of older celebrities are also naturals for this market. This fall Random House plans to publish large-type editions of John Glenn's memoir and a Rosemary Clooney autobiography. With the market expanding, however, publishers are adding blockbuster bestsellers and newsy titles-even Oprah's picks-to their lists.

For those interested in current events. the New York Times has a 40-page weekly digest of stories published in its regular daily paper. Similarly, Reader's Digest has a monthly large-size edition. "Circulation is going up," says Lesta Cordil, director of public relations for Reader's Digest. "It's not only aging baby boomers; we find that people who do a lot of computer use like the larger type. It's not just for older people anymore.

Publishers are careful to cater to babyboomer vanity. Nowhere is there a suggestion that large-print books are connected with getting older. Instead, publishers emphasize that people are reading large-print publications on treadmills, or relaxing with them after a long day on the computer, or using them to read in bed without their glasses. But with the graying of the baby boomers, large-print books are likely to become a mainstream, front-of-the-storeand no longer secret-habit.

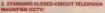


WHEN BIG LETTERS AREN'T ENOUGH

Technological advances are creating new independence for the visually impaired. These prescription and nonprescription devices, all available through Lighthouse International, help bring the written word into focus.



Acrylic magnifiers and other handheld tools provide a simple, inexpensive solution to mild vision problems. These paperweight-size sight aides draw in additional light to provide a clearer, sharper text image, enlarged up to four times. \$12.95 for a 11/2-in. dome; \$29.95 for a

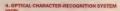


Printed material, photographs and other detailed objects placed on a rolling platform beneath the CCTV's camera are magnified as much as 60 times. These stationary models are a basic optical aid for the visually impaired. Prices range from \$1,295 for a 9-in. black-and-white monitor to \$3,000 for a 25-in. color monitor.



3. PORTABLE CCTV

A variety of portable models is available. Each consists of a small rolling or sliding camera that is passed over the text, magnifying and displaying it on either a CCTV monitor, a television set or a computer screen. \$695 for a handhold camera only; \$2,750 for a compact model with a built-in



These "personal reading machines" scan in typewritten text and "read" it back aloud, using a synthetic voice. When connected to a computer, scanned material can be converted to large print. Braille and other file types. Stand-alone OCR systems start at \$3,160. Those requiring a PC begin at \$1,350.



5. ACCESSIBILITY OPTION

At no additional cost, most computer operating systems offer options to enlarge font and icon size, reverse screen contrast, provide au feedback and activate "sticky keys" to aid in data entry. In Windows 95 and 98 look for the Accessibility Option and in Macintosh systems for CloseView and Easy Access.



6. SOFTWARE PROGRAMS

Recent software developments are making many word-processing, office-use and Web-related programs accessible to the visually npaired. These programs enlarge text and icons, or use keyboard commands estead of a mouse to target

Braille and synthetic-speech users. PC users can download several of these specialized programs free of charge at www.ibm.com/sns.

7. DOWN THE ROAD

New technology is constantly upgraded, and several manufacturers are planning to sell "virtual-reality" headsets that will allow users to see the enhanced image directly in front of their eyes without a monitor.





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Jumbo Rip-Off

Higher rates on big mortgages have little to do with credit risk. It's politics. Here's what to do

MOST PEOPLE WILL NEVER SEEK A "IUMBO" MORTgage-one too big to be sold to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, the federally chartered agencies that buy

mortgages in the secondary market and virtually guarantee the availability of home loans for working stiffs. The breakpoint is high enough-\$240,000 this year-that the higher interest rates on loans of that size afflict only one in five buyers nationwide. And so what? They can afford it, right? Don't be so sure. In today's torrid housing market, prices in some

mase in median price

\$321,700

since 1995

- San Francisco

JUMBO JUNGLE

regions are escalating far faster than personal income, shoving more home buyers into jumboland without a paycheck to match. In Louisville, Dallas and Phoenix, prices are going up 7% to 10% a year. In Charleston, S.C., home prices rose 16% last year. In San Francisco the median home price rose 12%, to a pocket-draining \$321,700. Let's put that number in perspective: to buy an average house with the standard 20% down, you would have to borrow \$257,360jum-hooo!

= U.S \$130,600 MORTGAGE CREEP: Hot

markets mean more buyers pay the jumbo premium

Russ Marinello, a mortgage broker for Bay Counties Financial, | vantages should work for everyone says 80% of the mortgages he originates are jumbos-and no, it's not his specialty. The San Francisco area is unusually pricey. But jumbo creep is a broad issue. The breakpoint adjusts annually to match the rise in the national median home price, 5% last year. Still, in places where home prices are escalating faster than that, more buyers will be pushed into jumbos.

A 30-year fixed-rate jumbo goes for about 7.08%-not that much more than the smaller "conforming" loan at 6.9%. Last October, though, jumbo borrowers had to pony up an average 7.22% when nonjumbo borrowers were paying only 6.76%, a punishing difference. On a \$250,000 loan, that extrainterest cost comes to \$77.20 a month, or \$27,792.13 over the life of the loan

Today mortgage money is easy to find.

The travesty is that jumbo borrowers have a lower delinquency rate, and on that basis deserve a lower, not higher, mortgage rate. Other considerations muddy this

things pretty much agree that credit risk plays virtually no role in setting the jumbo premium, which typically runs .25 to .5 percentage point above noniumbo loans. That premium is the result of financing advantages enjoyed by Fannie and Freddie, who pass along lower costs to nonjumbo borrowers. The problem with this stealth socialism is that it does not take hot markets into account. The breakpoint should be scrapped. Critics would argue that it's a subsidy for the rich. But Fannie's and Freddie's ad-

With rates near historic lows and jumbo rates relatively low compared to conventional mortgage rates, there's little reason to sweat this issue at the moment. Go for the jumbo if you can afford it. If you're just over the breakpoint, you could make a larger down payment to reduce your loan amount. But that money might be better spent in a stock fund. Another option is a piggyback structure, where you borrow just under the jumbo limit and take a second loan for the rest. That second mortgage comes at a hefty premium-maybe a couple of percentage points more than your first mortgage. But it may make sense if you retire the second loan quickly-say within five years. These options grow more valuable as rates rise and the jumbo premium widens-for as long as the dubious jumbo distinction is allowed to persist.

See time.com for more on mortgages. Dan's new book is Masters of the Universe. See analysis. But people who know about these | him on CNNfn Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m. E.T.

IPO A GO-GO Dedicated day traders have a new way to get hold of shares in those skyrocketing Internet IPGs. Last week Discover Brokerage Direct became the latest online player to offer retail investors a small portion of stock in initial public offerings, before the new issues leap 500% on their market debuts. To participate, you'll need to have a hefty \$100,000 in your

IPOS ONLINE Discover Brokerage Wit Capital ETrade Schwab Fidelity W.R. Hambrecht & Co. account, and a hearty appetite for risk-despite the recent mania, most IPOs turn out to be losers.

SKINNED AND BURIED If you're thinking of prepaying for your funeral, be careful you don't get stiffed. A group of Texans recently sued sellers of funeral (or burial) insurance, alleging deceptive marketing; regulators in Florida are trying to ban sales entirely. Advance planning is fine, but keep in mind that some policies deliver full benefits only if you live to a ripe old age. Others don't cap premiums, so if you do make it to 95, you could spend \$30,000 for a \$5,000 funeral. Make sure any policy is portable, and try to pay for it in one lump sum.

NO ESOP FABLE Before you plunk down your hard-earned cash to invest in a company, you might want to find out if its employees are doing the same. According to a new study by Hewitt Associates, firms that offer employee stock-ownership plans (ESOPs) outperform their industry peers handily. Though more firms now offer stock options to lure new hires, 1,000 public companies (and 9,000 private ones)

currently motivate THE ESOP workers with ADVANTAGE ESOPs. They Total Shareholder Return include such companies as UAL,

BellSouth, Allied Signal, Merrill Lynch and Procter & Gamble. -By Daniel Eisenberg

95



Scheduling Snafu I thought a Web calendar might bring order to

I thought a Web calendar might bring order to my messy life—but it just confused me more

Anita Hamilton

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SUSPICIOUS OF FILOFAX FANATICS.

After all, do you really need to schedule an appointment to pick up your dry cleaning? And if you can't

remember whom you're having dinner with on Friday night, was the date really worth making in the first place? I like to keep things simple. But not everyone appreciates my footloose approach to life. My roommate gives me the evil eye when I forget to call the cleaning lady, and I just got slapped with a \$30 fee for paying my Visa bill a few days late.

Feeling guilty, I decided to put my life in order using one of those free calendars on the Web that have been getting so much press on the business pages lately. I looked at jump.com (which Microsoft purchased last week) and the calendar on uahoo. com, but all those blank spaces made me feel like a scheduling failure. How could I ever fill them with enough meetings, deadlines and appointments to do them justice? But when.com (which was purchased a

couple of weeks ago by America Online?] was different. In addition to a generic cal-endar, it offers an events directory that lists, upcoming I'V shows, movies, book releases, sporting events, live Web chats, even quarettey earnings updates for my investments. If could schedule a reminder to buy that new Tom Petty CD, maybe I'd notice that my rent check was due the same day. It might even be fun.

Getting started was relatively painless. In logged not the when com website, set up a secure ID and password and was ready to start entering appointments. Since the first day of my newly organized life was a Friday, the first order of business was, um, pleasure. I found the movie listings easily neough, but had to drill down several levels for the reviews, and unfortunately there was no way to scar recommended films or buy tickets online. I could see which books to be a second or the second of the second of the second or the sec



er reminding her that a new Sarah Brightman CD was in stores. And the daily horoscope was pleasantly flattering. It predicted compatibility with my boss and potential mates; it even used my birth date, time and city to give a detailed, personal reading.

Sounds silly, but it was enough to get me to check my calendar each day. Once I'd had my fun, I started entering real appointments. I signed up for weekly classes at the gym for the next year. I sched-

uled the cleaning lady to come every two weeks. I even astonished my roommate by firing off an e-mail reminder to clean up for of the cleaning lady. But then I had rouble. For two days, the website wouldn't come upon my Mas at work. One day my horoscope didn't show up, and another day the local weather report (usually in the screen's upper right corner) was missing. The novely was wearing thin, and I was back to Post-it notes for writing down appointments.

I really wanted to like uhen.com, because someone there seemed to understand that people's lives are about much more than deadlines and dentist appointments. But I can't spend endless hours futzing with a finicky website. And my local entertainment magazine beats the Web hands down for event listings. As for the horoscope—well, I'll miss that

Questions for Anita? Send her e-mail at hamilton@time.com. She'll give answers to selected questions in an upcoming issue

FIFFOR ANIMAC While the original Mac won raves for its design, owners of Epson's Stylus Color 740 link-jet printer were dismayed to learn that a special software upgrade was needed to get the devices to work together. Apple made the fix, and now Epson is returning the favor by minting the printer in all five Mac colors. Available May 23 for \$280, it offers 1,440 x 720 resolution and prints up to six pages a minute.

standard:

other colors

are \$15 extra.

DOUBLE-DECKER Airbus Industrie, the world's second largest jobs as second largest jobs and annual acturer, amounted plans last week to build the world's ingrest plane, annual ARX, that will seaf 550 passengers (100 more than today's biggest jets) and offer such amenities as a gym, a healer or a kids' play area. The \$200 million plane won't take play in the seaf of the seaf of

until 2005, by which time competitor
Boeing may have its 800sealer ready.

A PENNY SAYED ... Tired of wondering whether you're being swindled by your long-distance phone carrier? You might want to pick up a new gizmo called Phone Genie by MediaCom (phonemiser.com). Every time you dial long distance, the \$200 device scans a directory of 20 discount carriers, including Sprint and MCI, to find the lowest rates available Intal month. About the size of a deck of cards, it plugs into any phone jack and will work on all the phones in your house. MediaCom

chairman and
"Miser in Chief"
Bob Pokress
claims the Phone
Genie can find
rates as low as 6¢
a minute. —A.H.





For years, BMW has advertised themselves as the ultimate in driving performance. But in recent USAC-certified tests, Seville STS with the 300-horsepower Northstar System and the amazing handling of StabiliTak actually outperformed the vaunted BMW 540i on the slalom course. And while tests like this translate to performance you can enjoy every day, it also makes one thing clear: When it comes to the slalom, Seville STS isn't just better than the 540i. It's what's next.

SEVILLE STS. IT'S WHAT'S NEXT.





Christine Gorman

Beyond Pasta

Getting all the right complex carbohydrates? Not if you're eating refined instead of whole grains

REMEMBER THE GOOD OLD DAYS WHEN YOU COULD eat all the pasta you wanted and still feel virtuous? After all, pasta (along with rice, potatoes and bread)

contains lots of complex carbohydrates—the stuff that nutritionists keep telling us is the foundation of a healthy diet. Turns out, things are more complicated than that. Complex carbohydrates are still good for you. But Americans get most of their complex carbohydrates from refined grains—which have been stripped of their fiber and many nutrients—and don't

eat enough foods made from whole grains.

Researchers are just beginning to understand why that matters. A number of studies conducted over the past five years suggest that eating whole grains-including oats, barley, rye and wheatcan reduce your risk of heart disease, minimize your chances of developing the most common form of diabetes and forestall several types of gastrointestinal disorder. Indeed, many nutritionists expect to see a greater emphasis on whole grains in the up-

whole grains in the upcoming revision of the government's dietary guidelines, due out next year.

Whole grains contain all three parts of the kernel: the bran, which is packed with fiber and B vitamins; the carbohydrate-rich core, or endosperm; and the germ, which is also full of B vitamins as well as other micronutrents. Finely milling the grains produces a flour that lacks the bran and the germ, leaving only the endosperm behind. Manufacturers enrich their remed produce with some oper that its combination of everything—the fiber, the combination of everything—the fiber, the vitamins, the minerals and, no doubt, other as yet undiscovered nutritional ingredients—that makes whole grains healthy.

Some grains, like oats, barley and rye, are rich in soluble fiber, which slows down digestion and helps lower cholesterol. Others, like wheat, are full of insoluble fiber, which helps keep bowel movements regular. (Another benefit of eating whole grains fewer hemorrhoids as your stools become

THE WHOLE KERNEL
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easier to pass.) You need both types of fiber for a balanced diet.

Don't get confused by the labels in the grocery store: multigrain, stone ground, cracked wheat. What's important is the first item in the list of ingredients. You're looking for the word whole. If it says enriched or wheat flour, it's a refined product.

If this still sounds like eating sawdust, try changing your diet in stages. Start with wheat bread, then switch to whole wheat. Some brands are milder than

others. You might even mix a teaspoon of oat bran or wheat germ into your yogurt.

Another reason to go slow: your intestines need a week or two to adjust to the extra fiber. Drink plenty of water to keep your bowels from getting blocked. "You don't have to eat all bran all the time," says. Susan Roberts, professor of nutrition at Tufts University in Boston. "Buty you should try to get some fiber at every meal."

Whole grains, of course, are not the not source of fiber, vitamins or complex carbohydrates. Don't forget your beans, peas and other legumes (rinsing canned beans in cold water helps cut down on gas). And as nutritions as these food groups are, they won't protect you from patently self-destructive behavior—like smoking, over-drinking or leading a sedentary life. But that's food for another column.

To read more about nutrition on the Web, visit www.navigator.tufts.edu. You can e-mail Christine at gorman@time.com GOOD NEWS

OLD AND HEAVY Being overweight when you're over 65 may not be so bad after all, according to a German report that analyzed data on 6,000 men analyzed data on 6,000 men and women. Dhese young and middle-aged folks have a greater risk of dying than the fit, but the danger seems to diminish as they grow older. Researchers even suggest that most adults can safely gain 10 lbs. every decade without cutting their life short.

BABY ASPIRIN Low doses of aspirin may help infertile women get pregnant, finds a new study. Women undergoing in-vitro fertilization who took 100 mg of aspirin daily along with ovary-stimulating drugs produced nearly twice as many eggs each month as those who didn't take aspirin. Better still, they were 50% more likely to become pregnant.

SNORE SCARE As if

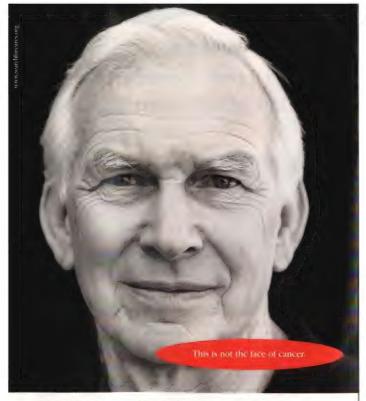
expectant mothers don't have enough to worry about. Now two studies show a curious fink between snoring and high blood pressure. One found that snoring moms-to-be are more than twice as likely to have elevated blood pressure—and three times as likely to give birth to underweight iriants. Another shows that when institute breathing

problems are corrected with a mechanical device, elevated blood-pressure levels fall.

LET THE SUN SHINE Vitamin D may be even more important than we knew for keeping women's bones strong. A new study shows that 50% of females with hip fractures are D- deficient. The vitamin not only helps the body absorb calcium, but it's now thought to play a critical role in bone repair. What to do: load up on fortified milk and cereal—and get some sun.

-By Janice M. Horowitz

tion (4/27/99); Ferbildy and Stenlity (5/99)
Bad News: American Lung Association/American Thoracic Sociel
meeting: Journal of the American Medical Association (4/27/99)



It's the face of William Bantz. Farmer, father and an obsessive do-it-yourselfer. At 73, he has lived with prostate cancer for six years. And he relies on help from advanced medicines developed by America's pharmaceutical companies to keep him free of symptoms. More people are surviving prostate cancer than ever before. But pharmaceutical company researchers won't give up until there is a cure. So people like William Bantz can keep on planning, dresming and building for the future.

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HER AMBITION IS SHOWING

last week at the Londo

MAKING FUN OF:

SIEGFRIED & ROY: THE MAGIC BOX

coming to theaters in July in 3-D IMAX

BUT WILL IT LAST?

Ex-spouses Pamela and Tommy Lee got back together last week. Luckily, she never dropped his surname.

- Tommy quit Mötley Crüe this week
- to spend more time with his family From what we as a nation have
- seen, they have a vigorous sex life ■ A reconciliation enables them to attract more publicity

CONS:

- Pamela has changed her appearance somewhat since they were last together
 - Pamela had her "Tommy" tattoo altered to say "Mommy"
 - Last year Pamela filed charges against Tommy for spousal abuse

YES! If these two aren't meant to be together, who is?



Will This Patch Things Up in Rome?

Perhaps SINEAD O'CONNOR Church, a Roman Catholic doesn't realize that rock 'n' roll, splinter group. Days before the which she sings, is the devil's ordination in Lourdes, France,

music, or that Roman Catholicism, in which she was recently ordained by a rebel sect, does not allow women in the clergy. Come to think of it, O'Connor doesn't seem to get this whole religion thing at all. Last

week the woman who in 1992 tore up a picture of | er Bernadette Mary O'Connor the Pope on Saturday Night also didn't know that priestly

O'Connor, a twicemarried mother of two, told the London newspaper the Mirror that she would like to get hitched again, but will wait "at least six months" before sleeping with her intended. Apparently the woman

now known as Moth-Live became the first female | marriage and sex are frowned priest in the Latin Tridentine on by Catholics as well.

Things We're Looking Forward to NAME: Wayne "Slayed







NAME: Tony "Slayed 'em in Vegas" Orlando D.O.B.: 4/3/44 OCCUPATION: smartly clad croon **BEST PUNCH:** Sued Newton, his friend of 30 years, for

\$15 million, saying the lockout cost him revenue from canceled shows and damaged his reputation

A DRAW. WE ALWAYS THOUGHT THEY

Roger Rosenblatt

A Note for Rachel Scott

OUR FRIENDS WERE SHOWN ON TELEVISION, WRITING goodbye messages on the white casket provided for you. I hope you will not mind if a stranger writes a message of his own. Of course, this is a literary device (as a young writer, you will recognize it as such), a way of doing an essay on the thoughts your death evokes. But this is also for you alone, Rachel, dead at 17, yet ineradicable because of the photograph of your bright and witty face, now sadly familiar to the country, and because of the loving and admiring testimonies of your family.

Your dad said in an interview last week that while there were many legal and legislative questions to be answered in the aftermath of the Columbine High School murders, these did not touch "the deep issues of the heart." He was referring specifically to the forgiveness that he, your mother and stepfather were dredging up for Dylan and Eric; and he may also have been thinking about the two boys' deep issues of the heart, realized out of a terrible darkness, and about the nightmares of your schoolmates who survived-all deep issues, reachable with great pain and difficulty.

But the deep issue I want to touch upon has to do with me and my colleagues-journalists who, for

all our recurrent, usually unattractive displays of know-it-all confidence, occasionally come upon a story such as yours and recognize our helplessness before it. Most honest journalists will admit that they never really understand the events they attempt to organize and clarify, and that more often than not it makes a "better story," one that comes closer to the truth, to swim around in the mystery of things.

I, who have lived more than three times your years, have rarely understood the occurrences and the people in the world that I have pretended to give order to. Yet I write sentences that end in periods. An odd word, sentence, don't you think? It means an authoritative decision, a judgment (one is sentenced in a courtroom), as well as a definite part of the language. Yet anybody who writes one knows that in reality sentences roll on and come to no conclusions; typically, they are questions disguised as answers, even cries for help

So, Rachel, when I write, "This is what I want to tell you," please read. "This is what I want to ask": Where do we, who ply our trade in this magazine and elsewhere, find the knowledge of the unknowable? How do we learn to trust the unknowable as news-those deep issues of the heart?

The problem belongs both to us and to those we hope to serve. Journalists are pretty good at unearthing the undeep issues. Give us a presidential scandal, even a war, and we can do a fair job of explaining the explicable. But give us the killings at Columbine, and in an effort to cover the possibilities we will miss what people are thinking in their secret chambers-thinking, feeling-about their own loves and hatreds, about the necessity of attentiveness to others, about their own children: about you, Rachel.

I have never believed that life is revealed in its cataclysmic

moments, its "wake-up calls," but rather in repose, when people go about the quieter business of being who they are. Journalists tend to turn to where the noise is. One of the things your death bequeaths is a reminder to look where the noise is not. One can tell far more interesting things about a crowd at a picnic than a mob in the streets, or about someone like you when you were writing poems and performing in school plays, or just dreaming without a sound, than when murder made you a "national symbol."

Your other bequest may be more useful still-to journalists and everyone else. No life ends on a period, no matter how long it is lived. But your abbreviated life makes one

especially aware of how much there is to the unknowable and untidy. In their private hours, your parents will imagine you as a wife, a mother, an actress in the movies or at the village playhouse. For myself, I see you married-as my own daughter was married a year ago-in a church ceremony the antipode of the one you were the center of last week.

The deeper unknowable, though, is who you were before the guns locked you into a sentence. The only question that ever ought to matter to my colleagues and our customers is the one we do not ask except in retrospect, after the guns or the scandal: Who are we all in silence-at a table in the cafeteria, at a table in the library? What can journalists tell others about the mind we all share, the innocent mind and the murderous? That is the real news of your death. That is the news I want to remember next week, when Kosovo is over or not over, and CONGRESS DEBATES GUN CONTROL, and Al Hirt's trumpet is no longer heard.

I would like to have remembered it before Tuesday, April 20, when the news of the day supposedly brought you to light. Rachel, you were always in the light.

The Scott family's website is www.racheljoyscott.com



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